THE VALE FUNERAL SERVICE
Serving Barry and surrounding areas
01446 407962
181 Court Road, Barry
www.thevalefuneralservice.co.uk

The Barry GEM

THE PRINCE'S COUNTRYSIDE FUND

"Your ORIGINAL priceless weekly newspaper"
The Vale's longest serving Community Newspaper
Established 1983

THE COMPUTER MAN
Established 1996
Computer upgrades & repairs
Tel/Fax: 01446 749118
Mobile: 07721 055 967
e-mail: andrew@thecomputerman.co.uk

Weekly audited distribution (51 weeks) to 31/12/13 - 42,528 (GEM Series). Audited by David Pinder & Co Ltd. Chartered Accountants.

www.barry-today.co.uk

THURSDAY, MARCH 27TH, 2014

COED-Y-MWSTWR HOTEL - Pages 16-17

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN £25 TO SPEND WITH A GEM ADVERTISER OF YOUR CHOICE!
See Page 25 for details of our weekly Facebook Competition...

RHOOSE BOWLING CLUB Page 22

YOUTH PROJECT WINS ACCOLADES AT BARRY AWARDS CEREMONY

PENARTH Youth Project is celebrating three awards at the Vale of Glamorgan Youth Awards, held in Barry Memorial Hall on March 13.

Max Williams won 'Volunteer of the Year 14-18' for his hard work and commitment, and for his work with the United Youth Club and Disability Teen Scheme.

The peer facilitators won the Citizenship Award for their dedication and support, also working with the United Youth Club and Disability Teen Scheme.

The Heads-Up group from Barry Comprehensive School won the health and wellbeing award for their outstanding work in life skills training to the younger pupils.

Manager Tracey Downes said: "I congratulate all the young people. Their awards were thoroughly deserved and I thank them for all their hard work and dedication to the Penarth Youth Project. I also thank the Penarth Youth Project staff and volunteers for their support and commitment, a truly great team.

"It was a wonderful night and was topped off by the Teen Scheme Singing and Signing Choir opening the ceremony with a medley of popular songs. A good time was had by all..."

DA

Family's hope that gang who attacked 'vulnerable' son will be caught...

Young couple were kicked and punched

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A local family have been left "frustrated" that no one has been caught by the police following an assault on their son, who is a vulnerable adult, and his girlfriend.

There has been recent Government concern about how police forces deal with offenders with learning disabilities – in this case it is the victim who has learning issues and poor health.

The police have emphasised they are still investigating the incident and urged any witnesses or people with information to get in touch with them.

The incident took place at Pencoedtre Park in Gibbonsdown, Barry, on Monday evening, February 24, at around 8.30pm.

Kane Takata, aged 20, and his 17-year-old girlfriend were approached by a group of youths and were kicked and punched.

Kane told The GEM: "I was walking with my girlfriend across Pencoedtre Park when a youth asked for a lighter. We said 'We don't smoke', and he kicked my girlfriend in the back.

"She went down on the floor bruising her legs. I helped her up and one of them punched me in the ribs three times.

"When my girlfriend took off her hood, they could see she was a girl and they apologised and said 'No one hit you, the wind blew you over'."

It was dark, but Kane says his attackers were probably aged around 16 years old.

The assault was reported to the police at 9pm, but Kane said he was disappointed the police didn't get in a car and go down to the park because he believed the attackers might still be there.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

Vehicle damage: POLICE APPEAL

POLICE in Barry are appealing for information, following damage to a blue Mini Cooper parked on the southbound side of Pontypridd Road, near its junction with Claude Road, between 2pm and 4pm on Sunday, March 16, when the front passenger window was smashed.

Neighbourhood PCSO Rachel Ward said: "Barry was very busy on that day with sunny weather and many people visiting Barry Island, so a lot of people will have travelled along Pontypridd Road.

"We are appealing for anyone who may have seen anything suspicious or who may have seen the damage being caused to contact us."

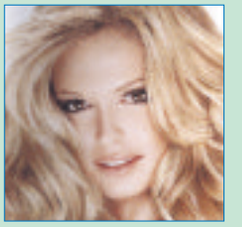
Telephone PCSO Ward on 07825 115130; the South Wales Police on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111 (quoting

shahi noor
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Tandoori & Balti Shagorana Dishes
JOIN US FOR MOTHER'S DAY
Saturday or Sunday Night - booking advisable
New Delivery/Collection Service.
FREE Delivery Barry area (Min order £10)
Just a small selection of our comprehensive menu
Curry Dishes
BHOONA CHICKEN OR LAMB SPECIAL £5.75
with tomatoes, egg and mushroom
CHICKEN OR LAMB ROGAN £4.95
CHICKEN OR LAMB JALFREZI....£6.25
CHICKEN OR LAMB KORMA £4.95
CHICKEN OR LAMB BHOONA £4.95
CHICKEN OR LAMB SAAG OR BROCCOLI £4.95
Medium chicken or lamb with spinach or broccoli
CHICKEN OR LAMB DHANSAK OR PATHIA £4.95
CHICKEN OR LAMB CURRY, MADRAS OR VINDALOO £4.45
TANDOORI CHICKEN OR LAMB TIKKA BHUNA £6.15
TANDOORI CHICKEN OR LAMB TIKKA CURRY £5.65
MURGHI MASALLA £6.25
Pieces of Tandoori Chicken or Lamb cooked with minced Meat, served in a thick spicy sauce.
All Breast of Chicken
Our Specialities
CHICKEN TIKKA MASALLA £5.65
LAMB TIKKA MASALLA....£5.65
CHICKEN MAKHANI £5.85
CHICKEN TIKKA CHILLI DRY & NAN £7.25
CHICKEN TIKKA GARLIC DRY & NAN....£7.25
CHICKEN TIKKA ROGAN £5.95
CHICKEN TIKKA PATHIA £5.95
CHICKEN TIKKA DHANSAK £5.95
CHICKEN OR LAMB TIKKA PASSANDA £5.95
Open Monday - Sunday 5.30pm - 12.30am
Friday & Saturday 5.30pm - 1am
87 High Street, Barry
[01446] 735706/732338

INSTALL SKIP HIRE LTD

All sizes available. Delivered & Collected.
MINI
Waste collection service.
Free surveys and estimates.
MIDI
Labour hire to load your skip.
Grab hire & Plant hire.
MAXI
95% of our waste is recycled.
Council/highway permits arranged.
XL MAXI
Waste Carrier Number CBLE5004GH
Tel: 01446 421072
Email: installskiphireltd@hotmail.co.uk
Unit 12F, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry CF63 3RF

HQ² The Salon
★★★★ 4-Star Salon



WELCOMING NEW CLIENTS TO HQ2
Special Offer
30% off first visit.
20% off second visit.
Only with this advert.
• Balmain Hair Extensions
• Hair up for all occasion
• Latest colouring & cutting techniques
ALL OUR STYLISTS ARE TRAINED TO LEVEL 3 STANDARD
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for special offers and news.
Tel: 01446 400102
36 Holton Road, Barry
(LOOK FOR THE BLUE CANOPY)

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. ***Letters and e-mails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number***. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

Who cares for young dementia sufferers in Vale?

YET again, I feel I have to write about the lack of age appropriate care for younger onset dementia sufferers in the Vale of Glamorgan.

When will our council realise that unless action is taken soon, this situation will be out of control?

Last year, 100 people in Cardiff and the Vale were diagnosed with this dreadful disease. That number has already increased to 150, with more waiting for diagnosis.

Apart from the assesment unit at Llandough hospital, the excellent Ty Hapus in Barry is the only day care facility in the Vale specialising in younger onset dementia; and respite or continuing care is a joke, because there is no appropriate care in this area.

We are promised a unit for sufferers in Barry Hospital, and although there is care for ladies, we are still waiting for care for men.

Meanwhile, we are told of places in Cardiff that would take our loved ones, mostly Whitchurch or Llanishen... Fantastic! But what happens if you have no transport? What if there was an emergency and you have to fight your way through traffic? How would those living further afield in the Vale cope?

It's not good enough!

We need a facility here in the Vale, close enough for family to reach, and sufferers to feel close to home – and that does not mean placing them in care homes for elderly patients.

Younger people have different needs, are often totally mobile and wanting to be active, so to put them with older people would be so unfair to all concerned.

Part 1 of the Mental Health Measure places a statutory obligation on health boards and local authorities to work together to deliver an 'ageless' local primary care mental health support service, and I understood there is also a duty of care.

Really?

So what exactly is our local authority doing to give our hard working carers a rest? Not a lot it seems!

If anyone out there would like to join me to fight for appropriate care for our loved ones, they are welcome to contact me through The GEM. Maybe an action group is the way forward.

Pat Hopkins,
Barry.

Llandow road to recycle and ruin

I wholeheartedly agree with GEM reader, Gary Shaw – the access road to the Llandow site is at the present time, treacherous and ruinous to the vehicles of the council taxpayers encouraged by the Vale Council to recycle our waste.

It would be appreciated if our council representatives and Alun Cairns MP could visit the site and give us their opinion.

This particular problem has been highlighted on a number of occasions in The GEM, yet little progress seems to have been made. Action please!

Terry Rooney,
Llantwit Major

Grateful thanks

I WOULD like to thank the two gentlemen and a lady who came to my aid when I fell in the car park at Lidl stores in Barry.

I was not quick enough to ask their names, but would like them to know that I was grateful and apart from a few cuts and bruises, and obviously I was shaken up, I did not suffer any lasting injury. Thank you once again.

Mrs Primrose Goldsworthy, Llantwit Major

W JAMES & SONS
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
FONMON, RHOOSE, NEAR BARRY
ESTABLISHED 1860
Independent family business with 24 hours personal service covering Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan
PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST
Tel Rhoose (01446) 710096

'Ystradowen go-ahead is a warning to every Vale village' says reader

LAST week's GEM report on the council approving an application to build 40 houses in Ystradowen should be a warning to every village in the Vale.

The field in question lies outside the present settlement boundary around the village. The boundary is meant to be in place till the new LDP takes effect in early 2017.

However, the Vale Council has found a way of getting round that protection by using a Welsh Government guideline which permits a council to override the boundary if it does not have a five-year supply of housing land.

This has been a handy way of working its way through a growing list of Vale villages with LDP candidate sites: so far, Fferm Goch, Ystradowen, Culverhouse Cross; the next likely one on the council's hit list is Colwinston, where a planning application has just been made by a developer.

By this planning sleight of hand, the council acts as judge and jury in its own case, thereby avoiding having such candidate sites being assessed in the quasi-judicial independent inquiry by the Welsh Government's LDP inspector in 2015-16.

That is not the end of the problem about the integrity of settlement boundaries in the rural Vale. It is not generally understood that the present Labour-dominated council is proposing in the draft LDP that the settlement boundaries currently around most Vale villages are scrapped in early 2017, when the LDP takes effect.

This was also the policy of the previous Conservative council in their LDP plans.

This will mean that from that time on, Vale villages will be entirely at the mercy of this council regarding windfall applications.

There have to be very great concerns about whether the whole character of the rural Vale is under unprecedented threat from 2017 if the boundaries go.

Finally, what will happen when imminent local government reorganisation replaces the Vale Council with a Cardiff-dominated Cardiff and Vale Council short of building land in the city – and let loose on a rural Vale bereft of settlement boundaries, removed by an irresponsible Vale political class?

Paul Jeremy,
Ystradowen.

'Don't blame the UK Government for tax rise' – *says Tory councillor*

THE Welsh Government, under Labour control, is entirely to blame for steep rises in the Vale Council's council tax levels.

I had the privilege of sitting on the Vale Borough Council and South Glamorgan County Council during the last three years of their existence from 1993-1996.

It was obvious from the outset of local government reorganisation, that the Vale was always going to be the poor partner of Cardiff in the future, whilst the capital city forged ahead with much higher financial annual settlements.

To blame a former UK Government that was in power decades ago for this month's massive council tax rise in the Vale is both ludicrous and incorrect. The Welsh Government has had the power to increase the amount of money it gives the Vale annually on some 15 different occasions, yet not once has it done so, despite having the Welsh Government's Finance Minister actually living in the Vale!

I can understand why the Llantwit 'Indies' wish to apportion blame on anyone except their own associates in the Labour party in Barry, but they really ought to get their facts right before blaming the previous administration, who by and large, did a good job in difficult circumstances.

Anthony Ernest,
Penarth.
Conservative councillor,

£25 GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE
facebook.com/glamorgangem

'Merger would be disastrous'

LAST week, the Vale Conservative group tabled a motion in full council opposing a merger with Cardiff, as recommended by a recent Welsh Government commissioned report.

We didn't do this to protect our own jobs, nor was it done because we oppose attempts to streamline local government in Wales.

We did it because we firmly believe that a return to the bad-old days of 'South Glamorgan' would be a disaster for the Vale.

The cost of politics needs to be reduced and we have to find ways, as a council to save money – and to ensure that we spend every penny of your money wisely.

But submerging the Vale into a Greater Cardiff region will put our towns and villages at a disadvantage, heightening competition for limited funding, and lead to the decimation of our green areas as we take on a greater share of housing to meet Cardiff's much greater need.

Like Coun Clarke, I was angry that residents were hit by the council with a huge council tax rise, but the way to prevent that from happening again is to campaign for fair funding from the Welsh Labour Government – not to merge our council with our much larger neighbours.

Coun John Thomas,
Leader, Vale of Glamorgan Council's Conservative group.

Fallen short on actions...

I WAS appalled to learn that the Vale of Glamorgan Council has decided to increase its council tax by 4.5 per cent.

This is yet another example of politicians taking taxpayers for a ride. What adds insult to injury is that the rise in the Vale is above the Welsh average of 4.2 per cent, itself well above the English average of 0.6 per cent! Indeed, many councils in England have frozen council tax altogether.

Why is it that the Vale Council feels the need to hit families with more tax at this difficult time?

Some have blamed the cuts on the Welsh Government, but these are proportional to the cuts being made in England, where there is very little or no rise.

A number of politicians have made a big deal of the cost of living crisis, but when it comes to action and not words, they've fallen short!

JE Pearson, Barry.

'SUPPORT OUR LOCAL TRADERS!'

ALTHOUGH many locals are concerned about the closure of the Cowbridge Post Office, the staff at Spar must also have our concern and sympathy.

This is one of a few shops in the town who are open 365 days a year and trade from 6am until 11pm daily (including Sundays).

We owe it to all the local traders to give them our support as customers.

Not everybody likes to shop at the multiples in town and prices are not always as competitive as might be thought.

So remember your local greengrocer, butcher, newsagent – all have given good service for many years. They need your support to keep trading in the town, or we will lose them, too.

As for the Post Office, none of the aforementioned traders would have enough space for that business, with its long queues during busy periods – and the cost of one of the new empty shops would no doubt be prohibitive.

So, are we off to Llantwit Major for our pensions, etc?

Mike Wilcock,
Llanblethian.

Funding for Wales cut by £1.7 billion

IN his Viewpoint column in The GEM last week, MP Alun Cairns wrote that it was outrageous that councillors didn't campaign against their own party and support him and his fair funding campaign.

He says they put party interest ahead of local interest. My question to Mr Cairns is, did he put party interest ahead of his constituents' interest when he supported party policy to cut Welsh funding by £1.7 billion?

This cut has caused hardship and problems. The need for a large increase to council tax in Wales is because of this funding cut that was imposed on the Welsh people.

Why didn't he show support for his constituents by voting against? He should tell us what cuts to services he would make if the council tax rise was lower.

Nobody likes the 4.5 per cent rise, but we should protect the most vulnerable from cuts to the services they need.

G Smith,
Llantwit Major.

'Don't park in a disabled space'

I AM getting very annoyed at the number of people parking in spaces clearly designated for the use of the disabled – while not displaying the necessary badge.

This is completely thoughtless. On one occasion last week, two of five designated spaces at Waitrose were occupied by vehicles without a badge. I have photographs of these and others and am considering naming and shaming.

Please consider those who need these spaces, before being so uncaring.

Bob Wheatley, Barry.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL APRIL 3)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
27 Thur	03.08	8.4	15.44	8.5
28 Fri	04.11	9.1	16.43	9.2
29 Sat	05.05	9.7	17.29	9.9
30 Sun	06.52	10.2	19.17	10.1
31 Mon	07.37	10.4	19.55	10.3
01 Tues	08.18	10.4	20.37	10.3
02 Wed	08.59	10.2	21.14	9.9
03 Thur	09.37	9.8	21.51	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

E-Mail Contacts: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk* • *gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk* • Tel 01446 774484
Published by: Glamorgan GEM Ltd., 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL. Printed by TMP.
facebook www.facebook.com/glamorgangem
twitter www.twitter.com/gem_news

Body-builder who conquered ill-health on track for British Championship bid

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A Barry Island woman who defied the medical odds to become a body-builder, has set her sights on retaining her Welsh title – as a springboard for an attempt to take the British title.

Karen Nolan-Evans (33) was a semi-pro footballer, who also competed as a kickboxer, when she received terrible news about the state of her health.

She explained: "I was diagnosed with spondyloarthropathy, an autoimmune arthritis around five years ago. It put an end to my kickboxing.

"My health deteriorated and I needed several operations on my joints. I also had an osteotomy of my left knee.

"Then I sustained a life-threatening seizure, following a cortisone injection at the hospital, which landed me in intensive care!"

Karen had reconstructive surgery on both ankles, and was having to take medication a number of times each day for the spondyloarthropathy.

She began exercising in the hydro pool at the University Hospital of Wales and then became more ambitious.

"In May 2012, I went to watch a local body-building contest and decided that I wanted to give it a go.

"Every day I would go to the gym to work on my joint mobility and strength."

Karen found that the exercise began to reduce the inflamation she was suffering.

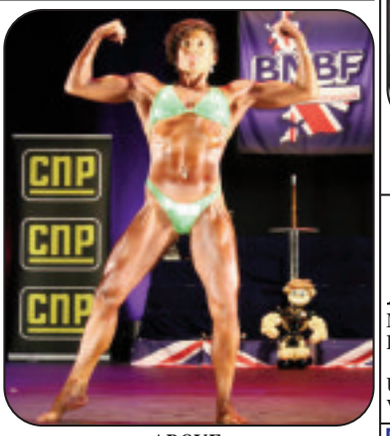
"The more I exercised, the less inflamation I experienced."

Routine health tests began to show an improvement and she decided that she wanted to compete. Last year she came second in the Welsh amateur body building championships.

She told The GEM: "I'm currently well into my preparations for the season.

"I am currently in need of sponsors, so if there are any individuals or businesses that may be able to help, I'd be pleased to hear from them."

To help Karen, go online to: http://www.gofundme.com/3mkxak.



ABOVE: Karen Nolan-Evans used body building to conquer health problems.

Bobath charity workers praised

AT the monthly meeting of Cadoxton (Barry) WI members were given a talk by a representative from Bobath, a charity helping children with cerebral palsy.

The talk was very informative, giving an insight into the problems and treatments. A collection was made towards the treatment and support of the children and their parents.

Vice-president Marion thanked the speaker and congratulated the team of workers on their dedication.

The winners of the raffle were Margaret and Chris. Members were informed of future trips including visits to local attractions. On March 20, members enjoyed an Irish-themed lunch at the Barry College.

As usual, the food and service were excellent and everyone is looking forward to booking for Christmas!

Later in the day, members treated themselves to some retail therapy at the local Bon Marche store!

New members and visitors are always welcome.

Meetings take place at Victoria Park Community Centre on the third Monday of the month at 7pm, except Easter Monday, when it is at 10am.

Contact 01446 404891 for further information. CW

PRIMARY PUPILS RAISE £549 FOR LEGION APPEAL

ABOVE: The certificate is handed over to Romilly school pupils

ROMILLY Primary (Barry) were among six schools in the area chosen to sell special trial school packs on behalf of The Royal British Legion Poppy appeal.

President Keith Harris and school liaison officer Joan Lake presented a certificate, acknowledging the sum raised of £549.42, to the children who took part in the trial.

The certificate was presented during assembly and they were given a short explanation of how money was used for serving and ex-serving personnel.

Mums' thank you

ALL Saints' Barry Mothers' Union would like to thank everyone who supported their coffee morning on March 15, held in the Church Hall, Park Road, Barry.

The event raised £456 for Mothers' Union charities.

Val Warlow, Barry.

Would you like an honest, reliable, affordable, police checked
CLEANER for your home.
Typically £10.50 per hour inc.
• Daily, weekly, etc.
• Insurance provided.
• All domestic cleaning undertaken.
TIME FOR YOU
DOMESTIC CLEANING
01656 349 296
01443 625 019
02920 291 000
www.timeforyou.co.uk

We want your pre-loved top quality
WATCHES & UNWANTED JEWELLERY.
Best prices paid, call in for a free valuation.
Visit us at
40 High Street, Cowbridge, CF71 7AG
or call 01446 776489
JRC JEWELLERY

FONE-BILL
Mobile phone unlocking
Cash Paid for Mobile Phones - working or not
iPhones Wanted
Bought for Cash
REPAIRS ON ALL MOBILE PHONES
iPHONE 5 CHARGERS 2 FOR £8
THOMPSON STREET, BARRY
Tel: 01446 421666

BAR BUZZ
Unisex Hair Salon
Lisa & Kelly are relocating to Fontygary Leisure Park, Rhoose
Join us on Sunday 30th March 4-6pm for our opening celebrations
We will be open for business Tuesday 1st April.
We would like to thank our loyal customers and look forward to seeing them in our new salon.
Please call to book your hair appointments.
Rooms available for a self-employed beautician.
01446 710608

Royal Balti
44 VERE STREET, BARRY CF63 2HU
Business Hours:
Sunday to Thursday 5pm-11pm,
Friday & Saturday 5pm to 12 midnight
www.royalbalti.co.uk
Tel: 01446 421366/01446 421377
All major credit/debit cards accepted - Any dishes not listed or special requests can be accommodated upon request
South Wales Echo
FOOD & DRINKS AWARD 2013/2014
Royal Balti
Highly Recommended - Top Indian Takeaway in South Wales
We are delighted to having achieved this, and thank all our customers for their valued custom.

FOOD HYGIENE RATING
0 1 2 3 4 5
EXPRESS DELIVERY SERVICE
Minimum orders over £10 (Barry Area). We also deliver to Sully, Dinas Powis, Wenvoe & Rhoose (charges apply).
WEEKDAY SPECIAL
Any 2 Appetisers (value up to £3.10).
Any 2 Curries (value up to £6.50).
2 Pulao Rice, 1 Nan Bread.
(Offer Sunday till Thursday)
£16.95
ENJOY £5 OFF All orders over £25
JUST SPEND £25 OR MORE
OFFER AVAILABLE
7 DAYS A WEEK
ORDER VIA TELEPHONE
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.ROYALBALTI.CO.UK
(Enter Coupon Code for Online Orders at Checkout 5OFF25) No offer is valid in conjunction with any other offer.
ROYAL THALI FOR 2
ANY 2 Appetiser (value up to £3.10)
ANY 2 Curries (value up to £6.50)
1 Side Dish, 2 Pulao Rice,
1 Nan Bread, 2 Papadoms
£21.50

Could Llandow Newydd plan still find favour with council planners?

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

WHEN the Vale Council's list of alternative candidate sites went live last week, one familiar proposal was under consideration.

The massive Llandow Newydd proposal, which was first presented over 12 years ago, was turned down by Vale Council planners in March 2009.

The developers took the refusal to a judicial review, where the Vale Council won after the appeal was dismissed.

However, as the new round of Local Development Plan (LDP) consulation continues, the site is back once again as an alternative candidate site.

As with all such candidate sites, the Vale Council has emphasised that none has the backing of the council, but legally the council has to pursue this consultation (*See Coun Neil Moore's column this week, page 13*).

However, one thing that has emerged in recent weeks is a groundswell of support for Llandow Newydd, as towns such as Cowbridge and Llantwit Major, along with smaller communities such as Ystradowen, all come to terms with the possible arrival of new housing developments.

Residents in Cowbridge, for instance, have discovered an enthusiasm for Llandow Newydd that was not there five years ago.

What has changed, of course, is that a number of housing developments are being proposed in and around Cowbridge.

Similarly, people in Barry, Sully and Dinas Powys resent being asked to take the bulk of the housing allocation in the LDP, so a development at Llandow that contributes 2,750 homes would have supporters in the eastern Vale.

When Llandow Newydd was first proposed, it included 2,750 homes, including affordable housing, a full range of services including both an English and Welsh speaking primary school, a village centre and several small 'local centres', a possible park and ride scheme, health and leisure facilities and significant areas of public open space including playing pitches covering some 17 hectares.

A by-pass around the village of Llysworney was also part of the scheme.

The proposals also included provision to retain and enhance 18 hectares of woodland and 'informal open space' of ecological value, together with the retention of as much existing hedgerow as possible.

In addition, the project promised to make land and funding available to provide healthcare facilities and, in conjunction with police, fire/rescue and ambulance authorities, would provide necessary premises and facilities to improve local emergency services provision.

Vale pioneers new service at hospital

A NEW service at Barry Hospital has been launched to help to reduce delays in leaving hospital and also cut hospital admissions.

The Vale Community Resource Service (CRS) offers one point of access to services that can help people avoid hospital admission or get them back into the community after a hospital stay.

The service created by the Vale Council and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board allows a co-ordinated response to each referral.

Stuart Egan, deputy Leader of the Vale Council and cabinet member for adult services, said: "Integrating these services means that local people are getting support and help more quickly, this means less hospital admissions, because people receive care as soon as they need it. It also leads to quicker discharge from hospital as the support services people need to leave hospital are promptly ready to help them. Integrating services in this way benefits patients and makes savings for both the NHS and the council."

At the official opening ceremony Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas AM, said: "The Vale of Glamorgan Community Resource Service is at the forefront of the Welsh Government's proposals to improve care and support services for vulnerable people through more collaborative working across health and social care, and with key partners in the third sector."

YOUNG MAN ATTACKED BY A GANG

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 1)

The police said an assault would be logged and told him to get in touch if he had any further information.

Kane's mother Sharon was so upset she put appeals online. Kane is a vulnerable adult with learning difficulties and has had very serious health problems, and she was keen to see the perpetrators brought to justice.

Sharon explained: "Later that evening, at around 10.15pm, I spoke to police in Cardiff and asked why they hadn't sent a car out, and the woman said they didn't know what emergencies might be happening elsewhere that would require cars."

Sharon said: "I put something on Facebook and a woman got in touch to say her son had seen it happen.

"We were given three names which we passed on to the police. But the police want the witness to come forward and he is too frightened.

"The police saw Kane about a week later at our house and said there was nothing they could do if the witness did not come forward.

"It would have been good if my husband and I had been able to meet the police with Kane. The police know he has learning difficulties and does not explain himself too well. We were travelling home from work at the time and did not realise they were coming.

"No one has been held accountable for what happened and I am worried this group might attack someone else."

The police told The GEM that following the complaint made by Kane, officers went to the area, conducted a search, and examined CCTV images; however, there was no-one in the vicinity. The police say they are continuing to investigate the assault and are appealing for anyone who may have any information about the incident, which occurred in the Pendcoedtre Park area at around 8.30pm on February 24, to contact them.

Local policing inspector Chris Owen said: "Incidents such as this are very unusual and we want to hear from anyone who can assist us in our investigations."

If you have any information which could assist police, contact Barry police station on 101, or free and anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 (quote reference 1400063214).

EARLY FLOOD ALERT

OVER 500 homes and businesses in Dinas Powys can now use a free flood warning service introduced by Natural Resources Wales.

It gives advance warning of potential flooding from the River Cadoxton by text message, phone call or email.

A spokesperson explained: "It has been introduced following the introduction of a new river level gauge which allows the organisation to monitor how quickly the river rises during periods of heavy rainfall.

"People living in the area, who may be at risk of flooding from the River Cadoxton, are encouraged to contact Floodline on 0845 988 1188 or 0345 988 1188 to register for the warnings."

Abbeyfield

Wales Society Ltd.

Housing with support for older people

Supported Living in Barry

Our sheltered home in Barry offers affordable, high quality supported living for people over the age of 55 who want to be as independent & self-reliant as possible, without the worry of maintaining their own home.

Please join us for **Easter themed afternoon tea** on Saturday the **12th of April** from **3:30pm** at Abbeyfield Barry, where you can experience for yourselves the independence, companionship & sense of community on offer at Abbeyfield.

T: 01446 724740
A: Abbeyfield Barry, Ty Dan Evans, 43 St. Nicholas' Rd, Barry, CF62 6QX
W: www.abbeyfieldinwales.com

Abbeyfield Wales

News from Penarth Computer Club

TO BROWSE OR NOT TO BROWSE...

THE age of big data is taking off, as I mentioned in January. The data you provide is good or bad news depending upon your perception.

Internet websites are very keen to gather information and that can be good for you. It can improve your browsing experience by remembering you and your interests. That enables it to target any advertising and persuade you to buy.

This can be a pain if you share your machine because you will get advertising targeted at your sharer (I have spent weeks looking at ladies' shoes).

It works the other way, too; my wife has no wish to read ads about computer gizmos.

So far, this is all unimportant and sometimes amusing. But it goes deeper. Gather enough tiny pieces of information about a person and other things can be inferred.

Your general health can be deciphered from your supermarket purchases of medications and choice of foodstuffs.

Your lifestyle can be indicated by where, when and for what you use your credit cards.

Does anyone invite their friends to a party using Facebook any more? How many houses have been trashed?

In the extreme you could reach the point where so much is known about you and ads and information so tailored to your personal preferences that important things might simply pass you by because the internet has no incentive to bring them to your attention.

If you want to avoid this happening to you, there are things you can do.

You can browse in privacy mode and ensure that your browsing history is not retained, or opt for sites not to put cookies on your machine – or not use sites that insist.

Be less predictable and pretend you are interested in obscure things that you do not like. You will get the ads, but not be tempted to buy.

Deliberately browse for topics that you would like to know about if anything interesting happens, just to be on the safe side.

Because they cater for a range of people, an odd item of interest can catch your eye in a newspaper. Will the internet become so refined that such delight might no longer apply? Be warned.

HOWARD DESMOND

WHAT'S ON *in brief*

Donate an Easter Egg

BEAUTYBASICS Barry are hoping to support Easter Project 2014 Wales, by presenting 200 Easter eggs to children and their families in Cardiff's homelessness shelters, and are looking for donations.

A spokeswoman said: "With so many 'buy one get one free' offers in the supermarket please support our appeal: Donate an egg to BeautyBasics, 11 Broad Street Parade, Barry, CF62 7AN; telephone 01446 700836."

Rhoose bingo

THE management committee at Rhoose Community Hall is holding another of its monthly bingo afternoons this Saturday (March 29) at the Hall in Stewart Road. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start. Light refreshments will be provided, together with a large raffle.

HOLISTIC THERAPIES • NATURAL HEALTH • ARTS & CRAFTS • REIKI • CLAIRVOYANTS & TAROT READERS • JEWELLERY • ORGANIC PRODUCE • PALMISTRY • CRYSTALS

Souls Awakening

Mind, Body, Spirit Event

Saturday 29th March 2014

Memorial Hall & Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA.

10am - 5pm

FREE Workshops/Talks & Children's Crafts and Activities.

£2 entry donation supporting

For info contact Emma Blake-Jones on 07591 659015 / blakey73@hotmail.com or find us on Facebook

• • • • • CRYSTAL HEALING • CAFE • • • • • AURA PHOTOGRAPHY • SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Man is jailed for a 'horrendous' lighter fuel attack

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

A MAN was subjected to a "horrendous" attack when a drunken friend sprayed him with lighter fuel and ignited it.

Seconds later, John George (30) repeatedly punched the victim, Paul Hamer, Cardiff Crown Court has been told.

George, of Bryn Du Road, Kenfig Hill, was jailed for three years and three months.

He pleaded guilty to attempting to cause Mr Hamer grievous bodily harm and was in breach of a community order for battery.

Recorder Peter Griffiths told him: "You pleaded guilty to a very serious charge for which there are no sentencing guidelines.

"You subjected this man to an absolutely horrendous assault. You sprayed lighter fuel over him, lit it and beat him up. The court cannot ignore what you did."

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said that on February 6, George went to Mr Hamer's flat unexpectedly in Kenfig Hill.

They had known each other since childhood. He said Mr Hamer let him in and they chatted for some time.

"Without any warning, he then sprayed him with lighter fuel and ignited it. Mr Hamer pulled off some of his clothing, and George then repeatedly punched him and bit an ear."

Mr Hamer succeeded in escaping and ran to a neighbour for help.

George, who was drunk, claimed falsely that Mr Hamer had caused family problems.

In the past, he said, Mr Hamer had given the defendant guitar lessons.

George's counsel, Kevin Seal, said that a combination of the death of his mother and the break up of a relationship had made his life spiral out of control.

He added: "He is genuinely remorseful and is disgusted by his behaviour. When arrested, he was heavily intoxicated and angry. In prison, he is about to start an anger management course."

When he is released, said Mr Seal, he wants to make a positive start in life.

Messy church has reminder of water's importance

ALL Saints Church in Penarth held two special services during March on the theme of baptism.

Over 120 people attended the monthly Messy Church for baptism-related crafts, games and activities.

Lesley Cox led the worship, which included a dramatised reconstruction of Jesus's baptism in the River Jordan.

A well-attended family service on Sunday (March 23) built on the theme with a focus on the symbolism of the water used in baptism. Following a dramatised Bible reading presenting the story of Jesus's encounter with a Samaritan woman at a well, Rev Peter Cox reminded the congregation how precious water is in some parts of the world. The newly-formed All Saints worship team of musicians and singers led contemporary worship songs.

At the end of the service, Nigel Lloyd-Latham's moving original composition, 'Lamenting Angela', received its debut performance.

The next Messy Church event is at 4pm on Sunday April 13, with the next family service at 10am on Easter Sunday. For more information visit *allsaintspenarth.org.uk*.

Promotion of final Lent discussion

THE church ends its series of Lent discussions focused on films with 'Life of Pi' on Wednesday April 2, at 12 noon to 1.45 pm and 7.15pm to 9pm. Admission is free with tea and coffee available. Visit www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk for more information. All are welcome.

Rise and fall of coalmining family

THE speaker at the Barry Men's Forum meeting last week, was John Prior-Morris, who came dressed in Victorian garb, as Walter Insole would have been attired in the 1890s, and he gave a very interesting illustrated talk about the rise and fall of the coal owning family, who lived in Llandaff for most of their lives.

Their history in coal began in 1829 when the family founder, George Insole moved to Cardiff, and began by trading in coal, buying small quantities from private mines.

His big break through came when it was realised that Welsh steam coal was much cleaner than the standard Newcastle coal, and, he won a contract to bunker *HMS St Pierre*.

It is claimed that he was the first to supply the Admiralty with south Wales' coal for their ships, which soon became the priority fuel.

When he died in 1851, it appears from testimonies that he was very respected by his employees.

However, when his son James took over, he was a much harder owner. In 1856, there was a major explosion in his mine at Cymmer, when 114 miners were killed. Although criticised, the company was acquitted, but it left a legacy of bitterness.

The Insole family built a house called 'Ely Court' in Llandaff, modest at the time but with numerous developments and additions, to keep up with Lord Bute, and Cardiff Castle, it became a major house of the area.

John went on to trace the later history of the family and house, which is now called 'Insole Court' which is presently run, and is being refurbished to its former glory by the 'Insole Court Trust'.

On Thursday, April 3, the speaker will be David Crompton, whose talk is entitled 'The Cardiff Bay Barrage'.

New members are welcome. The Forum meet at Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Aberystwyth Crescent every Thursday morning at 10.15am.

For further information, contact the chairman, Peter Westcott, on 02920 594881.

PMW

GEM READER ASKS... *Why cut this Island bus service?*

PLEASE enlighten me – is this right, or am I just plain stupid? The UK Government is urging us to go green and rely on public transport.

I wholly agree with that, as I am all for protecting our environment – but in the Vale of Glamorgan at Barry Island, the main part of our bus service to Barry from Barry Island seems to have been cut.

After 7.30pm every evening, there will be no bus service on or off Barry Island. This will hit pensioners the hardest, as many of those on Barry Island love to go across to town to play bingo.

Now they will have to leave home before 7.30pm and then rely on a taxi to get home. What use is their bus pass?

Why do the council ask you to go green by using public transport, and then cut your reliance on it by cutting the service?

We do have a rail service out of Barry Island, but it costs up to three times the price to go anywhere by train and, of course, pensioners cannot use their bus pass on a train or taxi.

The Vale Council should be made aware that this is totally unacceptable, especially as there is a free bus service to and from the airport that is more often seen to be void of passengers.

Surely there is a cabinet member for transportation within the Vale Council who can address this issue and be called upon to explain to the public why the particular bus service to and from Barry Island has been cut?

Barrie V Evans,
(Coordinator, Barry First Group/Barry Voice).

Hundreds look for jobs at 'fair'

VALE AM Jane Hutt visited the Barry Jobs Fair on Friday (March 21), organised by Barry Communities First, and reported that more than 800 job seekers had attended by 12 noon at the Memorial Hall.

"I was particularly pleased to see the interest shown in the Welsh Government's Jobs Growth Wales Programme with a range of new opportunities for 16-24 year olds across the Vale," she commented.

The MASTER MARINER
SKOMER ROAD, BARRY
• Sports Bar • 3 Pool Tables
• Darts • Skittle Alley
Large screens showing live sport & sky sports
Friday 28th March
WISHING WELL
Live Band - Starts 9pm
Lounge available for private parties, engagements, birthdays etc.
01446 732300

Chain Maille Classes
The Bead Room @ Boxes & Busts
New to Chain Maille or just wanting to add to your knowledge we have the classes to suite.
13 new classes to choose from taught using rosy bronze.
Bookable in the shop or on line.
www.boxesandbusts.co.uk
Unit 19, Ty Verlon Ind est. Barry , CF63 2BE
or ring 01446 701290. Hrs: Tues - Sat 9am - 5pm

Glam Hair Design
Seniors' Discount
20% off
available Mondays & Wednesdays.
All clients can get
£10 off
all Colouring Services
on production of this advert.
7 Plas Cleddau, Cwm Talwg CF62 7FG
01446 739612

Ends Sunday 6th April
End Of Financial Year
£1,000,000 Stock Sell-Off!
Time is ticking
when they're gone they're gone
50% Off These Famous Brands
Sherbourne Dual Motor Lift & Rise
NOW £583.29
Hamilton Solid Oak Ext Table & 6 Chairs
NOW £899.95
Silentnight Lucio 4'6 Ottoman Divan
NOW £354.97
Buoyant Zara 3 Str & 2 Str Settee
NOW £859.95
The Place for Homes
The Furniture Hangar, Sutton Road, Llandow, Nr. Cowbridge, CF71 7PA Telephone: 01446 772927
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9am-5.30pm Sat 10am-5.30pm.
Sun 11am-6pm Late Night Thurs 9am-8pm
Or buy on line at www.theplaceforhomesltd.co.uk

CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

Barry man used fork to stab drinking partner

AN ATTACKER who used a fork to stab his victim has been jailed for 10 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Gareth Brooks (43) of Holton Road, Barry, admitted causing Nathan Garner actual bodily harm.

Prosecutor Jason Howells said that the victim had lived in sheltered accommodation.

Sometimes, the two men would drink together. On February 6, there was a dispute and Brooks was heard shouting: "I'm going to stab you in the throat, I'm going to kill you."

Some time later, he threatened him and stabbed him three times in the right shoulder with a fork.

Brooks' solicitor, Ann Griffiths, said the victim didn't require hospital treatment and Brooks had a degree of mental disorder.

Mr Justuce Wyn Williams told Brooks: "This incident took place in a hostel for vulnerable people. Your victim was vulnerable, and so are you."

He said the wounds were minor, but it could have been a lot worse.

BURGLAR SEEN ON FACEBOOK COURT IS TOLD

A BURGLAR was identified after he was spotted on Facebook, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Aron Taylor (22) of Richard Street, Barry, was jailed for 14 months after he admitted burgling premises in Lombard Street, Barry.

He also admitted being in breach of a conditional discharge for shoplifting.

Said Mr Justice Wyn Williams, "You are a young man and you burgled premises where the occupants were a young couple and a baby. To your credit, once you were disturbed you left without making any threats."

He said the aggravating features were that he had previous convictions for burglary and robbery.

"I have no option but to sentence you to immediate imprisonment."

Prosecutor Hoa Dieu said that on December 29, Taylor broke into the premises. One of the occupants, Rakesh Momi, was asleep on a sofa but was awakened by the presence of Taylor standing in front of him.

The front door had been left unlocked and Taylor made off with a games console and a bottle of vodka.

A police dog later tracked Taylor's scent to Richard Street and Taylor was later spotted on Facebook.

He was arrested and made full admissions.

His solicitor, Derek Gooden, said "He is under no illusion that the sentence will be custody. He co-operated fully and has the benefit of a family behind him."

He was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

PENARTH BOOK FESTIVAL BOOST FOR LESOTHO SCHOOL LIBRARY

PICTURED: Back row, left to right: Suki Flynn from PADLT, Mel Tuke Griffin and Fay Blakeley of the Penarth Book Festival, Rosemary Dix, Rev Peter Cox, Tracey Graham, Mary Anne Marsden from PADLT. Front: Anne Hallett from The Penarth Book Festival presenting the cheque to Lesley Cox of PADLT.

WITH planning for the 2014 Penarth Book Festival in October well under way, the organisers have presented a donation to the Penarth and District Lesotho Trust (PADLT).

Over the past 10 years, there have been a number of group visits from Penarth to Lesotho. A recent project has been to build a library in the grounds of TY Junior Academy, an independent non-funded school. Their goal now is to stock the library with books and make it available for both the school and the local community.

Lesley Cox, Chair of PADLT, said: "We are delighted to have the support of the Penarth Book Festival, their donation will enable us to buy much needed reading books for the library."

The Festival has also recently made a donation to The National Literacy Trust 'Young Readers Programme', specifically supporting a project running at a Swansea primary school. The project helps nurture a culture of reading for pleasure, supplying the children with books, which for many of them will be the first books they've owned.

The festival team has thanked everyone involved in the 2013 Festival, especially the writers and volunteers, whose support made the both the festival and these donations possible. The next Penarth Book Festival is planned for October 2014.

Epitaph in wake of Bligh mutiny...

ON March 18, Dr Alastair Cooper gave a talk to Dinas Powys Probus entitled *'In the wake of the Bounty*.'

Dr Cooper took a degree at Cardiff University in marine studies, is a master mariner and author of several histories of marine matters. His talk related to events leading up to and beyond the mutiny, explaining the reasons why it occurred and the consequences.

The *Bounty* was originally a collier, 90 feet long by 23 feet broad, and had a crew of 39 plus Commander Bligh.

The purpose of the voyage was to gather 750 bread fruit plants from the Pacific island of Tahiti and take them to the West Indies to feed the slaves. The main characters in the tragedy were William Bligh, (aged 33), Fletcher Christian (aged 23), and Tom Ellison, a 15-year-old foundling.

The ship sailed in 1787: Bligh came from a fairly humble background but had become a very skilled navigator and marine cartographer. Unfortunately, he was blessed with an extremely bad temper.

Christian was from a family who were part of the establishment in London society and he resented being criticised by Bligh in front of the crew.

The planned five-month voyage to Tahiti took 10 months due to bad weather and because they arrived after the growing season had passed, there was a further five months delay.

During the extended stay, the crew formed relationships with the local girls and were reluctant to leave. Bligh's bad temper did not help and eventually the crew, led by Christian, mutinied: 14 were actual mutineers, but 25 wanted to remain loyal to Bligh, including Tom Ellison.

Bligh and 18 supporters were put into a 23 foot long-boat – there was not room for any others and Tom had to be left behind.

They were given bread, rum and water and lived on fish and any birds they could trap. They were facing a voyage to safety of 35,00 miles, with only very basic navigational equipment.

Fortunately, Bligh, the expert navigator and a strict disciplinarian, made sure that the meagre rations were fairly shared out, and he brought all the men to safety at Timor Island in the Dutch East Indies. Bligh then returned to London and was treated as a hero.

Mutiny was regarded as treason in the Royal Navy and the mutineers knew that if caught, they would be hanged.

Those still loyal to the Crown were returned to Tahiti to await rescue, but Christian took the mutineers to Pitcairn Island which, being so remote, would be a safe haven. The *Bounty* was burnt so no escape became possible.

The Admiralty then sent Captain Edward Edwards, who had Welsh connections, on the ship Pandora to hunt out the mutineers. The crew numbered 136, including marines to deal with any trouble.

When he arrived in Tahiti, he was regarded as a rescuer, but he placed all the survivors in chains and condemned them to the bilges, refusing to listen to their claims that they had not mutinied.

He was a brutal man with no sentiment. He banned hymn-singing and prayers, believing them to be mutinous chants.

After a fruitless search for the *Bounty* and the mutineers, Edwards set sail for home but *Pandora* was wrecked on the Barrier Reef and 40 men drowned.

At the subsequent court martial, presided over by Admiral Hood, three were sentenced to death, the others transported for life. Young Tom Ellison, was one of those three. He had learnt to read and write during his time in goal and wrote to Admiral Hood, swearing his loyalty to Bligh and pleading for mercy. However, the Crown was determined to have its revenge and poor Tom was hanged at the yardarm.

The mutineers who had settled in Pitcairn, together with native Tahitians and women, did not live for long. Jealousy and alcohol caused fighting amongst them, and they were all dead within a few years.

Descendants of the original settlers, about 30 in number, remain on Pitcairn and depend on financial help from Britain to survive.

The vote of thanks was given by Malcolm McGuire.

Twists and turns with Penarth and District Ramblers

THE isolated, narrow wild and ruggedly beautiful Vale of Ewyas lying beneath the Black Mountains, became the backdrop for a recent walk when 15 Ramblers joined Liz to explore the area around Cwmyoy, where the village church, because of subsidence following a huge landslide, is unusually twisted in different directions.

Climbing up to the open ridge on Hatterrall Hill, the border between Wales and England, to enjoy morning coffee as well as splendid views, a tramp along Offa's Dyke path then a descent into the valley brought them to their lunch point, the delightful mystic remains of Llanthony Priory.

The Augustinian Priory founded early in the 12th century and nestling in the valley is spectacular, and much of the 12/13th century church still survives. Drinking in stunning views of the surrounding mountains before crossing the River Honddu, a gentle climb into Llanthony Woods led on and descending to the road and recrossing the river the impressive landslip in the hillside above Cwmyoy was admired before following tracks back to the village.

Terry and Val took advantage of public transport recently from their meeting point in Cardiff, to aid their linear walk from Tredegar to Cwmbran, utilising part of the Sirhowy Valley Walk. Passing below the Iron Age hill fort of Y Gaer, also referred to as Tredegar Camp – probably because World War Two defence installations were incorporated into the site, a climb led to the ridge with brilliant views in all directions to enjoy during morning break.

A golf course, meadows and woodland paved the way for their lunch break at St Peter's Church in Henllys, which is situated above the Pant yr Eos brook before the route carried on through a muddy wood and over fields to the Brecon Monmouth Canal.

Following the canal back to Cwmbran and negotiating their way back through town to the bus station for the relaxing drive back to Cardiff, rounded their day off nicely.

On March 29, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile moderate walk at Aberdare; contact Clive on 029 2065 4156.

On March 30, in celebration of the group's 21st birthday, meet at 9am at Cogan for a 10.5-mile moderate walk from Llangybi; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Special place to remember Lucy

PICTURED: (left to right) Jayne Norman Mayor's consort, Jane Hutt AM, Coun Lis Burnett, Louise Mackintosh, Mark Dickenson, Glenys Dickenson, Bev Noon with Hannah and Matilda sitting on the bench.

VALE Mayor, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, met a local family at the Knap in Barry – to mark the siting of a bench in memory of Lucy Dickenson, award-winning social entrepreneur, who in 2006, with her twin sister Hannah, created the SAFE Foundation.

The international charity operates in the developing world to increase access to basic human rights – education, safe water and healthcare.

Lucy died in Zambia in 2012 and is included in the Barry Women's Trail.

"The Knap is a special place as each year, the sisters would celebrate their birthdays with a picnic on the beach," Coun Wilkinson explained.

Primary pupils are FAST-tracked!

BARRY Island Primary School pupils and parents have graduated – after running an eight-week families and schools together (FAST) programme with Save the Children, supported by Morrisons.

Fifteen local families took part in the UN-endorsed project that works to promote and develop positive relations between schools, families and local communities.

Ty Golding, headteacher at Barry Island Primary School said: "Delivering the FAST programme here at Barry Island Primary School has been a fantastic opportunity for our staff, children and parents alike. There are obvious benefits, which include an improved self-esteem for pupils, a stronger community spirit and a general sense of achievement for all.

"Engaging parents in their children's learning and school lives is extremely powerful and for us the evidence is clear to see in the enthusiasm and motivation of those involved.

"The benefits have also extended to our FAST leaders and giving community figures a genuine sense of purpose for coming together and working towards a common goal should in no way be underestimated!"

The eight-week programme is voluntary and available to all families with young children. It involves participating in activities such as singing, reading and playing games, cooking a family meal and having focus time for parents.

Save the Children is aiming to issue 400 schemes across the UK and the charity has already run projects in Wales in Cardiff, Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Mary Powell-Chandler, the head of Save the Children in Wales said: "FAST makes a huge difference to the families that take part. By bringing together those key elements in determining a child's success, their school, their family, and the community, FAST ensures that children are given the support they need to thrive."

Laptop gift will help young Lewis follow his dreams!

Lewis unpacks his new laptop.

A 13-year-old schoolboy can now 'Follow his Dreams' of becoming a world famous architect – thanks to two Cardiff companies.

HLM Architects and Loyn & Co Architects presented Ysgol Erw'r Delyn pupil, Lewis Gasson, with a laptop at a ceremony to help him design buildings as part of school art lessons.

It was organised through children's charity Follow Your Dreams, that provides children and young people with learning disabilities with an opportunity to follow their dreams.

Associate director of HLM, Jonathan Jones, said: "We are delighted to be able to help fund a laptop for Lewis and recommend specialist software for him to use. We're looking forward to seeing some of his designs!

"Lewis also came to our offices in Cardiff a couple of weeks ago, where we were able to show him how buildings are designed, in particular his new school, which will be part of the Penarth Learning Community development.

"We are also planning to give Lewis a special tour of the new buildings in September before the school moves in."

Vicky George from Follow Your Dreams, commented: "We were thrilled to have the support of two local architects to help make Lewis's dream come true and together they have funded a fantastic laptop for him.

"We were particularly pleased that they were able to join us for the presentation so that they could see how their support makes a real difference."

Fantastic products delivered straight to your floor !

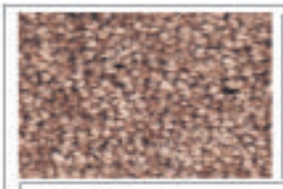
twenty 12 flooring.com

0800 610 2012

Mobile : 07403 310 516 – 0788 301 2080

Email: info@twenty12flooring.com

The flooring company that comes to you



BLEACH CLEAN 7 Year Warranty 4m & 5m £13.49m2

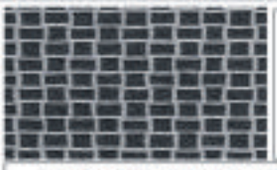
FREE FITTING & DELIVERY

80% WOOL 30oz TWIST 4m & 5m £19.49m2

FREE FITTING & DELIVERY

HEAVY USE BERBER 5 Year Warranty 4m & 5m £14.99m2

FREE FITTING & DELIVERY



Hygienic Easy Clean 5 year warranty

VINYL'S From £9.99m2 FREE DELIVERY

Quickstep Master Installers

LAMINATES From £6.99m2 FREE DELIVERY

ENGINEERED 3 STRIP WOOD 14mm thick Satin or Matt Finish

WOOD From £21.99m2 FREE DELIVERY

nicf national institute of carpet & floorlayers

SERVING…… Barry, Penarth, Cardiff, Llantwit, Rhoose, The Vale, Bridgend

FREE MEASURING SERVICE

VISA MasterCard PayPal

£208,250 windfall for It's My Shout

IT'S My Shout Productions have been awarded £208,250 by Creative Skillets Cymru to help develop skills and talent in Wales.

The investment has been made available through Creative Skillets Cymru's Skills Investment Fund.

Pencoed-based It's My Shout, which is behind the Bridgend Youth Theatre, will work with a consortium of partners including BBC Cymru Wales, S4C and The Film Agency for Wales, to deliver training opportunities to up to 59 students from across Wales, in a wide range of production areas – from camera to sound, art department to hair and make-up – and will act as a resource for film and high-end television production in Wales.

It's My Shout Productions Ltd produced short films for television and screen for BBC Cymru Wales, S4C and the UK Film Council.

Huw Walters, interim director for Creative Skillset Cymru said: "It's My Shout's new trainee programme focuses on areas of production skills which are currently lacking in Wales.

"The new scheme will give people from all over Wales the opportunity to help meet this demand and form part of the media workforce in Wales; thus developing world-class talent which will not only contribute to inward investment, but also put Wales on the global map."

Rhodri Talfan Davies, Director, BBC Cymru Wales and chair of Creative Skillset Cymru National Advisory Board said: "It's My Shout has given thousands of young people across Wales a head start in the film and television industry – in front of and behind the camera.

"A large number of its former trainees are now working worldwide in the creative industries, and our own drama studios at Roath Lock in Cardiff are also benefiting from the talent nurtured by It's My Shout.

"BBC Wales has always been committed to developing new production talent – it's in our DNA – and we're proud of our long association with both It's My Shout and the Creative Skillset team.

"The launch of this talent pool for Wales is an important part of building the creative skills base here in Wales".

S4C's director of communications, marketing and partnerships, Garffild Lloyd Lewis said: "I'm really pleased that It's My Shout Productions have been successful with their funding bid to create a talent pool for Wales.

"This is the second year for S4C to support the It's My Shout project in Wales and this year we look forward to seeing three short films in the Welsh language produced by students working on the project in three communities in Wales.

"The investment from Creative Skillset Cymru is in addition to the It's My Shout Made in Wales film project, and S4C is proud to be part of this partnership project as we look to boost the development of creative talent in Wales."

PACT meetings

DYFAN PACT, Highlight Park Community Centre on Monday, March 31 at 7.15pm.

COFFEE & CHAT, The Six Bells, Penmark on Tuesday, April 22 at 11am.

COMMONWEALTH FLAG FLIES FOR FIRST TIME IN THE VALE

THE flag of the Commonwealth has flown for the first time over the Vale – at the Queen's request.

It is the first time in the UK that the flag has been requested to be flown outside London, bringing together 53 countries worldwide flying the flag to mark Commonwealth Day.

The Mayor of the Vale, Coun Mrs Margaret Wilkinson, was joined by Vice-Lord Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Sir Brooke Boothby, as RAF personnel from MoD St Athan raised the Commonwealth flag outside the Civic Offices in Barry.

The occasion was marked with a short ceremony attended by Alun Cairns MP, Jane Hutt AM, mayors and councillors from across the Vale, and representatives from the RAF, Navy and Merchant Navy.

Coun Wilkinson gave a short address, followed by a message from the Queen, which was read by Sir Brooke Boothby.

The RAF St Athan Voluntary Band played both the national anthems of Great Britain and Wales as the flag was raised into position by Sergeant Lisa Millar.

Barry joined 200 other cities and towns throughout the UK who marked the event, as Glasgow prepares to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Pupils from St Helen's RC Primary School were also there to witness the event.

Erin Gamble (10) said: "It was really exciting and a great pleasure to watch. I didn't know too much about Commonwealth Day and the Commonwealth Games, but now I am looking forward to seeing them."

Harry Rose (seven) said, "I wouldn't have watched the Commonwealth Games, but I am going to now. This has been exciting seeing the flag go up.

The Commonwealth is made up of 53 countries that were once British Colonies and their residents make up a third of the world's population.

Jane Hutt with pupils from St Helen's School.

Coun Wilkinson and Sir Brooke Boothby.

Sgt Millar raising the Commonwealth flag.

DO YOU HAVE MISTED/FOGGY DOUBLE GLAZING

No need to change the window. Just change the glass. ?

Tel: 01446 741579
Mob: 07909 991691
JONES upvc

apple Hearing&Healthcare

UP TO £200 OFF 3 SERIES HEARING AIDS* WITH THIS ADVERT

COME ALONG TO BARRY EYE CENTRE & TRY THE LATEST HEARING TECHNOLOGY

- WIRELESS HEARING TECHNOLOGY
- FREE HEARING TESTS
- FREE ADVICE & DEMO's
- FREE TRIALS*
- 2 YEARS FREE BATTERIES**

OFFERS END APRIL 30th

BARRY EYE CENTRE • 87 Holton Road • Barry • CF63 4HG
• FREEPHONE 0800 587 2318 •
Also visit our showroom at 1 Willow Court • Pengam • Blackwood • NP12 3SL
E: info@applecares.co.uk • Visit: www.applecares.co.uk
* ** T&C's apply. apple hearing & healthcare reserve all rights.
Offers correct at time of printing.

C.S. Boxall is a family business established since 1990

C.S.Boxall Ltd.
Plumbing, Heating & Electrical Work
Over 35 years experience in the industry.

WORCESTER Bosch Group
Gas, Oil & Solid Fuel Boiler Installations. Please take advantage of our Free Survey

LPG
Bottle Gas available
(Flo Gas Stockist)

Servicing from £80

AGA & RAYBURN
Installation, Service and Breakdown

PLAN AHEAD FOR YOUR HEATING SERVICE.
Visit our warehouse for all your plumbing, heating and drainage supplies

For all your Tool & Plant Hire

For stores and gas phone 01446 772292
For main office and general enquiries call 01446 772444 or freephone 0800 849 125

OPEN: 8am 'til 5pm

Visit our website: www.csboxall.co.uk

39F Vale Business Park, Llandow, Nr Cowbridge, CF71 7PF

Plenty to celebrate, but we must rise to Vale challenge

'WE need to celebrate what we can achieve and have achieved in education in the Vale.'

That was the message given at my annual Spring Breakfast, by Professor David Egan, who is Professor of Welsh Education Policy and director of the Wales Centre for Equity in Education.

The breakfast event was attended by headteachers, governors, Vale councillors and officers, members of the Youth Service, the college and the local press.

Professor Egan also said that we need to be clear about the challenge in realising the potential of every child in the Vale and this requires leadership and engagement from the early years with families, communities, governors and parents, overcoming barriers and disadvantage, through Welsh Government programmes like Flying Start and Families First.

Our response to his inspiring presentation, was to consider the roles we all had to play in maximising the potential of children in the Vale, to meet needs and challenges.

This was my 14th Spring Breakfast held at Cardiff and Vale College in the Hospitality Suite in Colcot Road, Barry, cooked and served by students, providing valuable work experience as part of the course at the college.

I congratulated the students on their culinary and hospitality skills and told them that they had good job and career prospects to meet the growing tourism and hospitality sector in Wales.

I invited Professor Egan to speak at the 2014 Spring Breakfast, to guide and support us in our various roles and shared objectives, to seek to continuously improve education in the Vale from pre-school provision, through to college and work-based learning.

In my opening remarks, I said that since 2011, the Welsh Government has invested almost £3million in Vale schools and pupils, through the school effectiveness and pupil deprivation grants.

These provide financial support for our national priorities for schools – improving standards in literacy, numeracy and reducing the impact of poverty on educational attainment.

I also reported on the capital investment of almost £17million from the Welsh Government towards the Vale Council's school building programme, creating educational environments that are fit for purpose and for for the 21st century.

Coun Chris Elmore, cabinet member for children and young people, spoke of his vision for schools in the Vale with an increased commitment to providing additional capital from the Council's resources, year on year, to uplift the school building programme, to meet learning needs across the county.

The importance of community was strongly supported at the Spring Breakfast discussion, and I was delighted to attend the Barry Jobs Fair in the Barry Memorial Hall later that morning, organised by Barry Communities First, which was hugely successful in attracting people of all age groups who are seeking, training, work, advice and support.

With employers engaging with the 800 + participants in the Jobs Fair, who poured through the doors when they opened at 10am , this was a very successful event for education and employment in the Vale.

I was particularly pleased to talk to staff at the Careers Wales stand who were promoting job opportunities through the Welsh Government's £12.5million European-funded Jobs Growth Wales programme with a range of job opportunities for 16-24 year olds in Penarth, Barry and Cowbridge.

They were also promoting new apprenticeship opportunities in Aberthaw, Barry and Cowbridge in a range of sectors – more information can be obtained from 0800 0284844 or 029 20906800.

It is clear there is much to celebrate and promote in the provision of education in the Vale and we must rise to the challenge by providing the leadership and resources to back all those who teach, support and manage our schools, colleges and work-based learning in our county.

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by **Jane Hutt** AM *(Minister for Finance)*

Barry landscapes in new exhibition

MARTYN KAYE, headmaster of Croesty Primary School, Bridgend, is also an artist whose colourful landscapes of the Heritage Coast and Barry are on display at the Travellers Café on platform 1 of Barry Station.

The café is run by the charity Mind in the Vale, with the help of Vale Glamorgan Artists.

The exhibition may be viewed on weekday mornings from 8am – noon until May 9.

Tools With a Mission (Cymru)

TOOLS With A Mission (TWAM) which enables people to earn a living and to support themselves, collects and refurbishes tools and equipment no longer required in the UK and sends them overseas.

Last year, over 200 tonnes of aid (worth over £1m) was shipped from TWAM's distribution warehouse in Ipswich. TWAM Cymru collects and refurbishes equipment that is donated from across the south and west of Wales, sending some 30 tonnes of tools and equipment through Ipswich since the opening of our unit near Dingle Road railway station in Penarth in early 2010.

We deal with old and unwanted tools, as well as sewing and knitting machines and haberdashery. We are open each Tuesday and Thursday morning, between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the sorting, cleaning, refurbishment and packaging of donations, especially haberdashery.

For more information contact twamcymru@twam.co.uk or 07814 573696.

Andy Bowdler
(Tools With A Mission regional manager for south and west Wales).

01656 648936
THEODORE & SONS & DAUGHTERS
Bridgend Industrial Estate (Rear of Celtic Tyres) CF31 3AQ
Reclamation & Building Salvage

OUR GARDEN FIGURES - ALWAYS HALF PRICE.
Excellent choice and value!
www.theodorereclamation.co.uk
Weekdays 8.30am - 4.15pm. Sat, Sun & Bank Holidays 8.30am -12 noon
Closed Easter Sunday

LEADING BRANDS sale

HALO Jacuzzi Sealy smeg tecnologia che arreda ZANUSSI HERITAGE BATHROOMS ROTPUNKT KÜCHEN HYPNOS Stressless EKORNES THE INNOVATORS OF COMFORT™

PLUS FREE CREDIT* available for a limited time only
Leekes Llantrisant Cowbridge Road, RCT. CF72 8XU | Tel: 0845 050 8240 | Web: leekes.co.uk
Leekes You're home
*0% APR Representative. Finance is subject to status, conditions apply. Offer ends 16th April 2014. #Discount applies to doored kitchen cabinets only, excludes decorative items such as plinths, pelmets and panels, ex-display and clearance lines. Discounts vary according to range.

Ty Hafan family cuts the turf for new playground

A FAMILY supported by Tŷ Hafan marked the start of work on the charity's new desert-island-themed playground on Friday, March 14.

Jacob Ferriday (17) and his mum Sally from Barry, cut the turf at the hospice overlooking the Bristol Channel in Sully.

The entire space will be accessible for wheelchair users and every piece of equipment has been selected with integration in mind. The state-of-the-art facility will include a race track, wheelchair trampoline, wheelchair see-saw and bespoke lighthouse.

Sally said: "The plans look amazing and I'm sure the children will get so much pleasure from the new facility. We can't wait to see it completed!"

Tŷ Hafan's chief executive Ray Hurcombe commented: "We are delighted to be starting work on this fantastic new playground and it was wonderful to see Jacob and Sally mark the occasion at our turf cutting ceremony.

"We are passionate about providing our families with unique and enriching experiences and this is a fantastic example of Tŷ Hafan leading the way in children's palliative care.

"We could not complete projects like these without the generosity of our supporters and I'd like to thank our corporate sponsors and of course, the public, for their kind support."

Real Radio presenter Jason Harrold attended the ceremony, along with Johanne Stacey-Davies from Dow Corning. Real Radio's 'bring a £1 to work appeal' contributed £38,000 and Dow Corning donated £22,000 towards the new playground.

J L Harrison Enterprise Fund, Making a Difference Locally Ltd, The Waterloo Foundation, The Freemasons Grand Charity, Barclays Wealth, Mumbles Community Council, Co-operative Employee Benefits and Ortho-clinical Diagnostics also made significant donations towards the project.

ABOVE: Real Radio's Jason Harrold, Sally Woodham-Allen with her son Jacob Ferriday, Simon Peters from Real Radio, Johanne Stacey-Davies from Dow Corning and Tŷ Hafan CEO Ray Hurcombe.

GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE

Our GEM Facebook winner for March 20 is:

Janet Morgan

who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM. The answer was:

WALES!

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

Our lucky winner has chosen to spend their prize with...

The Three Horseshoes

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

REMEMBER TO LIKE US AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK:
facebook.com/glamorgangem

'Cautious welcome' for passenger rise at Cardiff Airport

NEWS that Cardiff Airport has seen a 10 per cent rise in passenger numbers has been "cautiously welcomed" by Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies AM.

However, "providing value for money would be paramount in making Cardiff Airport sustainable," he added.

The regional AM for South Wales Central, who has been an outspoken critic of the purchase of the airport by the Assembly Government, said: "Recent progress is certainly cause for optimism but these are early days.

"Passenger numbers are just part of the picture and to put this into perspective, based on Welsh Government spend to date, each new passenger equates to around £750 per head.

"What the airport really needs, beyond additional routes and passenger numbers, are competitive prices. When you hear from holidaymakers first-hand that it can be as much as £1,000 cheaper for a family of four to fly from Gatwick instead of Cardiff, it really puts the challenge into perspective."

Mr Davies also suggested that freight performance would be a vital indicator of recent performance, and hoped positive developments would enable Welsh taxpayers to receive a return on their investment.

"Freight is equally important as a gauge of an airport's success and it will be interesting to see what progress, if any, the Welsh Government has made in boosting volumes in the year it has run the airport.

"Ultimately, I hope that each new positive development will bring us closer to seeing some of this huge outlay returned to taxpayers' pockets, with the airport returning to private ownership," he added.

eco-oven cleaning

Treat yourself to a Sparkling clean oven

call 02920 291770
www.ecoovencleaning.co.uk

Our marketing suite is now open.

We've invested £8.5m in creating a superb new state-of-the-art care home in Whitchurch and we'd love you to see it.

Our helpful team will be on hand to show you the home and talk to you about your individual needs and preferences. You can choose your own room, and when you're ready to make your booking, we'll help you through the process, giving you all of the advice that you need.

Heol Don is open to everyone, you don't need Bupa health insurance to stay with us, so why not call us today.

To find out more or to book your appointment:

Call **0292 000 4904**

Visit **bupa.co.uk/heol-don**

Heol Don Nursing and Residential Centre, Heol Don, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2XG

00895_02_14

Life and times of a liberated woman... (part 2)

by NANCY DAVIDGE

IN 1931, my family moved from the hustle and bustle of London to the tranquil village of Staunton in the Forest of Dean, near Monmouth.

It was indeed Utopia for my brother and myself. We could roam the forest, carving our names on the trees, watch the deer and other wildlife species.

We attended school in Coleford and one day my teacher told my class to write an essay on Horatio Nelson. On reading my work, my teacher accused me of cheating. I was made to stay behind to show where I had supposedly cheated.

I had not been dishonest, I was eventually allowed to go home with the threat I would be dealt with the following day.

I was walking the long, lonely road home when a van stopped and the driver asked me to get in, saying he would take me home.

I had been warned by my parents never to accept rides by a stranger. I began running back towards Coleford, looking behind to see the van turning with the intention I am pretty sure of abducting me.

I kept running. I saw the Monmouth bus approaching and fortunately the conductor was my friend's brother, who made sure I was safely in my own home, within an hour.

A constable from Monmouth came to my home asking for details of the van and driver. Who knows what may have happened if the bus had not arrived?

My parents insisted on an apology from the teacher, who was also suspended for some time. The fact was I did *not* cheat.

NEXT: ***The looming war years ...and my first love.***

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is ***NANCY DAVIDGE***
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Llangan school

ON Tuesday (March 25) children from years 3 – 6 took part in a hockey tournament at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

The children were hoping to meet former pupils from Llangan school.

Today, March 27 years 3 and 4 were invited to the Tesco Tythngwysa dairy farm to learn all about where food comes from!

Standstill

WORK at the former garden centre at Fferm Goch has come to a standstill, although all the former buildings have been demolished, also the glass structures.

All that remains is an enormous mound of sawdust, a notice on the perimeter fence seems to denote there is a possible change to the original plans.

STEAMED UP DOUBLE GLAZING?
Don't replace the Frames... just the Panes!
Broken or Damaged Windows?
Faulty Hinges, Handles or Locks?
Want the latest energy saving glass?
5 year guarantee on new double glazing.
cloudy 2 CLEAR WINDOWS
REPLACING YOUR FAILED DOUBLE GLAZING
...we make saving money perfectly clear...
Call Freephone 0800 61 21 118
www.cloudy2clear.com

Suspended sentence for 'sophisticated' cannabis growers

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

A sophisticated cannabis-growing operation in a flat in Pencoed was "nipped in the bud" when police officers carried out a search, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

They discovered 14 plants with a potential yield worth £8,400, said prosecutor David Webster.

Ian Tomlinson (29) and Leon Young (27) of Caeau Duon, Pencoed, each admitted producing cannabis.

Each was sentenced to eight months imprisonment, suspended for 18 months. Tomlinson was ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work, and Young was ordered to carry out 250 hours unpaid work. Each was also made subject to a supervision order.

Judge Rhys Rowlands said: "Fortunately, this operation was nipped in the bud". He said the fact that they pleaded guilty was important. It was, he said, a reasonably sophisticated operation based in a garage.

Some of the drugs, he said, would have been supplied to others. The offence, he said, was not at the top end of this bracket.

Mr Webster said that on September 27, the police searched the premises and found 14 plants, fans and a basic watering system.

The defendants were not present and later surrendered to the police.

Young admitted the offence and said he was the owner of the flat in which Tomlinson also rented a room.

The plants were about two weeks old, with a yield of about £8.400.

Tomlinson was said to have a conviction for driving with excess alcohol and to have been cautioned for possessing drugs.

Young had convictions for violent disorder, causing damage, making threats and possessing Class A drugs.

The roles of the two, the court heard, were equal.

Mower Man 2000
Sales • Service • Spares
01446 771660
£290
Model HRG 415 PD
3
£2,995
HONDA AUTHORISED DEALER
Ride on HF 2417 HM
5
Any purchase of a new Honda mower will be entered into our Harrods hamper draw, end of season.
Richard Couzens Machinery Ltd.
Unit 10a Vale Business Park, Cowbridge,
Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7PF
www.mowerman2000.co.uk

BRIGHTEN UP YOUR Mothers Day
Mother's Day xxx
YANKEE CANDLE
the world's best loved candle
NEW FRAGRANCES FOR SPRING from £7.99
SUPERB RANGE OF TOPIARY (INDOOR/OUTDOOR) from £14.99
GIFT SET only £10
NEW CROCKERY SETS DESIGNS INSTORE from £9.99
Seasons Garden & Christmas Outlet
Unit 9/10, Parc-y-bont
Brynmenyn Industrial Estate
Bridgend CF32 9SZ
Tel: 01656 723399
Open 7 DAYS A WEEK
10am-5pm
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AND SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER

1st Choice

APPLIANCE & COOKWARE CENTRE

Premium quality brands at the lowest possible prices

3A Tynewydd Road, King Square, Barry also our shop warehouse at 252 Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4PS.
(Situated between the multistorey car park and the Bassett). **Over 5,000 sq ft Warehouse with a comprehensive display of appliances.**
Factory refurbished and brand new appliances in stock!

- **Freestanding & Built In**
- **Ovens & Hobs**
- **Dishwashers**
- **Washing Machines**
- **Fridge Freezers**
- **Range Cookers -** Gas, Electric, Dual Fuel, plus lots more...

REPAIR SERVICE AVAILABLE on all kitchen appliances

REFURBISHED APPLIANCES

from only £99

Fully Guaranteed

NEW WASHING MACHINES
from £159.99

INTERNET PRICE MATCHING

We price match with the internet and superstores wherever possible! Please call for a quote...

Selection of RANGE COOKERS in stock

Experienced sales staff to advise you!

SPECIAL OFFERS

NEW LARDER FRIDGE

- 50cm wide • Auto Defrost

OUR PRICE £98.99

UK's cheapest under counter fridge?

- Well known superstore price £109.99

Brand New WASHING MACHINE

OUR PRICE £149.90

UK's cheapest washing machine?

- Well-known superstore price £169.99 • our normal instore price £159.99

BOSCH Hotpoint BEKO smeg STOVES belling NEFF INDESIT

plus many other top name brands...

Up to 5 years Manufacturers Warranty

Same/Next day delivery service

Payment Plan Available. Pay weekly with No INTEREST CHARGED!

Open Monday to Saturday 9am - 5.30pm

Visit us at **www.1stchoicetrade.co.uk**

01446 730884

**UK's lowest prices found through internet searches. All prices correct at time of searches.*

BUILT IN ovens & hobs

Special offer extended

All in stock **SINKS & TAPS** now on offer **BELOW INTERNET PRICES.** Approx 100 taps and 300 sinks.

Only while stocks last.

FRIDGE FREEZERS from only £179.99

Appliances used for illustration purposes only
Prices quoted for ex-display items, unless otherwise stated

Somerset farmers' benefit evening 'just like Christmas!'

GLAMORGAN YFC and Glamorgan NFU recently joined forces with NFU Mutual to raise money for Somerset farmers affected by recent floods.

The event was held at Barry Memorial Hall. Due to demand, extra space was sought, increasing the capacity to 400. Ticket sales made a significant start to the fundraising by making £7,000.

The evening was hosted by Glamorgan NFU chairperson, Abi Reader and Glamorgan YFC chairperson, Beth John and saw the seven young farmers' clubs entertain the guests in a variety of acts.

Opening the evening was Wick YFC who performed their recent entertainment 'Glam Air', followed by singing, dancing, comedy sketches and a performance by the Glamorgan YFC Choir, who are representing Wales in the national final in May.

Glamorgan NFU chair Abi Reader (left) with Glamorgan YFC chair, Beth John.

The finale was provided by current Glamorgan champions, Maendy YFC, performing 'Return to Paradise'.

This was a final dress rehearsal for the Maendy cast before they went to Llandudno to compete in the Wales finals.

Raffle tickets were available, and Philip Thomas (Herbert R Thomas) received bids from very generous guests.

Auction prizes were gratefully received from local and national businesses including BOCM, Countrywide, TH White, David Evans Agricultural Ltd, Watson Fuel, two local contractors, and vets.

Thirty auction prizes were offered in total, including items such as 10 acres of grass silage foraging, 20 acres maize drilling, 500 litres red diesel, 500 litres heating oil, two lawn mowers, fencing course, digger hire and skid steer hire.

The auction made £8,000, which has been estimated at 1.5 per cent more than its retail value.

The raffle was equally as successful, with calving survival packs, boiler suits, food hampers, a professional cake, pub lunches and gift vouchers. Numerous local businesses and private individuals got involved – not just those in agriculture but the wider rural community too.

Glamorgan NFU chair Abi Reader said: "It was like Christmas when the items started coming through the door."

The proceeds of the raffle provided an extra £2,000 for the fundraising pot.

Sponsorship for the theatre hire was provided by Bridgend NFU Ladies, as well has private donations from organisations such as The Vale of Glamorgan Show, Glamorgan Farmers Club, Glamorgan NMR Herd Competition, Glamorgan Iron Horse Vintage Society, while Glamorgan NFU contributed £4,000 to partly cover food costs and as a donation to the cause.

The night was a great success and an excellent opportunity for farmers, young farmers and the wider community to get together. It also proved that good can be done when organisations work together. The generosity people showed on the evening was incredible and a fine demonstration of farmers and their supporting industries standing together.

The grand total raised was a whopping £20,000, which will be donated to a special fund set up under the umbrella of the Addington Trust for a recovery fund for farmers.

HANNAH LEWIS

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find caring homes for dogs at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

Footie-mad Ole's goal is a brand new owner!

DOGS Trust Bridgend is appealing to dog loving football fans to help a very special four-legged footie fan win his perfect match.

Staff have named the playful pooch after footballing legend Cardiff City manager and former Manchester United striker Ole Gunnar Solskjær, who donated a recent TV appearance fee, along with club owner, Tan Sri Vincent Tan, to Dogs Trust.

The donations are helping the re-homing centre to care for 'Ole' and his friends as they wait for new owners to come along.

The three-year old crossbreed ended up at the Re-homing Centre in Bridgend through no fault of his own, when his owner was no longer able to care for him.

The footie-loving pooch is desperate to find a new best friend to play endless games of chase. He is a fetch fanatic who cannot resist bounding after a ball.

Like any footballer, he would also benefit from a little extra training, so needs a patient adult owner to help him settle in and become part of the family.

Playful Ole demonstrates his football skills...

Linda Feagan, Dogs Trust Bridgend Supporter Relations Officer explains: "We are delighted with the generous donation from Ole Gunnar Solskjær. We rely entirely on donations, which enable us to carry out our work and help as many dogs as possible. It will really help us care for our four-legged Ole and keep him in footballs while he waits to find a loving family.

"Ole is such a fun, mischievous dog who loves to show off with a football. He is bright as a button and a real bundle of energy, so will need an active owner to keep him entertained.

This bouncy lad needs a home with a secure garden to bound around in and would, of course, love a football to play with.

"He is a sweet natured boy who would be happy to curl up on the sofa and watch Cardiff City after a long day's play. We are really hoping that our Ole won't be left on the bench much longer – he is such a fantastic dog who deserves to find a loving home for life."

Anyone interested in re-homing Ole can visit *www.dogstrust.org.uk*.

Dogs Trust Bridgend has dogs of all shapes and sizes looking for homes, and staff will consider a wide range of homes and circumstances, providing that they fit the requirements of the dog and provide it with a loving, lasting home.

LINDA FEAGAN
(Supporter Relations Officer, Dogs Trust Bridgend)

NUT strike hits schools

THERE was confusion for parents in the Vale and Bridgend County borough yesterday (Wednesday) after the National Union of Teachers voted for a national strike in response to proposed changes by the Government to the teachers' pensions scheme, pay and conditions of service.

The effect was mixed, with both councils posting information in the morning about the situation.

More schools were affected in the Vale, where 11 schools were closed, and 28 described as partially open.

In Bridgend county borough, the early morning information was that four schools were closed, and six partially open.

Council measures are geared to protecting Vale's major services

VIEW FROM THE VALE

by Coun **NEIL MOORE** Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council

SINCE my last column, the council has moved forward with various projects. As well as setting the budget – we have protected the major services and not made savage cuts, unlike other councils.

I should emphasise that we have been able to do this because of this administration's long-term budget strategy.

We have maintained funding for social services and we continue to work very closely with the health sector.

It was, therefore, my pleasure to open the new Vale Community Resource Service at Barry Hospital on March 20, along with the Deputy Minister for Social Services, Gwenda Thomas AM.

This is an example of collaborative working between the Vale Council and Cardiff & Vale UHB, and has enabled the team to be fully co-located in this superb facility.

This community-based integrated health and social care rehabilitation/reablement service is operated by both UHB and Vale Council staff.

They provide wide and diverse professional services and create a single point of access and contact for health, social care and the third sector services, allowing a co-ordinated response to individual users, speeding up these services, which helps achieve Welsh Government priorities.

LDP confusion

IN relation to the current stage of the Local Development Plan (LDP) process, there seems to be some confusion.

The council agreed its Draft LDP. It then had to follow the legislative process by consulting on that Draft Plan and receive any 'Alternative Sites' put forward, as an alternative to those in the Draft Plan.

All consultation comments and 'Alternative Site' suggestions have been received, logged and those comments/sites are on our website for inspection.

To complicate matters, we now, legally, have to ask for further consultation on the 'Alternative Sites' proposed.

I have to stress that these newly-suggested 'Alternative Sites' have not been agreed by the council.

I know that this has confused people, but we have no option but to ask for comments on those alternatives.

Once this second consultation is complete, the council can consider any 'Focus Changes' (if any) it needs to agree, always provided those changes do not deviate from the original strategy.

I understand that the process is complex, but we have to abide by the legislation in going forward.

If anyone has any problems, or wants to raise any issues, please contact the council, as indicated on our website, at valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp.

Island progress

WE are continuing with the regeneration work at Barry Island which is progressing well.

Work is also under way to refurbish the Western Shelter toilets in time for Easter and the new tourist season.

In relation to further changes on the Island, it is also proposed that our tourism, events and Barry Island resort manager and their teams will be relocating to the upper floors of the old tourist information centre (TIC).

This will put our dedicated officers at the heart of this tourist resort, with the ability to also manage the other tourist areas throughout the Vale of Glamorgan from that base.

I think this is a very good use of a council building and will be advantageous to both traders and visitors alike.

It is also envisaged that the bottom floor could be leased to an organisation with a viable business plan at a reasonable rental, as can the resort manager's building on the seafront, which is soon to be vacated, as a result of this alternative use of the TIC.

Access work

IN another recently completed seaside initiative, the new Llantwit Major slipway, which gives better access to the beach, was recently completed and according to early reports, the good weather has brought many people out to enjoy the beach.

In relation to the access ramps to Whitmore Bay on Barry Island, work is on-going and they will be repaired as soon as possible.

Let's hope for a hot summer when we can all enjoy what I consider to be one of the best coastlines in Wales – and on our doorstep.

I suspect that many have noticed that work has begun on the road improvements from Gileston Cross to the Old Mill, St Athan.

This is long overdue and will make the road much safer for all users. Continuing with that theme, we have had further discussions with Welsh Government about it funding road improvements to Five Mile Lane.

I look forward to those discussions continuing in order to achieve this much-needed work and give better access to the airport, the Enterprise Zone and Barry from the A48.

Youth service

FINALLY, I would like to refer to the youth service and the potential changes to the way their service is delivered, as recently reported to cabinet and highlighted in the press.

Contrary to certain rumours, this will include a 'hub' in Cowbridge, as well as the other major towns, and complemented by street-based activities in other areas.

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

Kittens, young and older cats – All needing a new family!

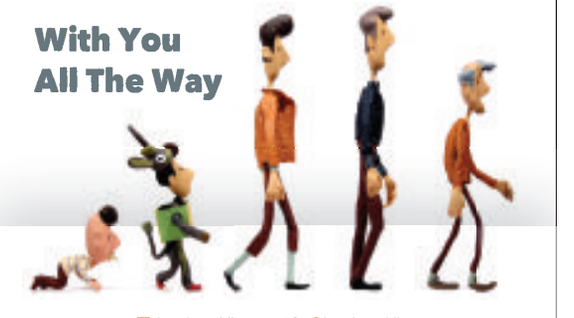
All cats have been neutered & microchipped

Charity No. 1020630

All our work is funded by Charity Shops.
We sell bric-a-brac, books, clothes and small items of furniture.
Donations always welcome and now you can text
maws 11 to 70070
Tel: 01656 721496 or 01656 769855
www.maesteganimalrescue.co.uk
Thanking everyone for their continued support

Local Weekly Newspapers

With You All The Way



localweeklies @localweeklies

www.localweeklynewspapers.co.uk

FINAL REDUCTIONS! FINAL 4 DAYS!

CLEARANCE EVENT

HUGE REDUCTIONS

100s OF SALE ITEMS STILL REMAIN & MUST BE CLEARED

First come first served!!!

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

while stocks last

Due to the reorganisation of stock in our showrooms and warehouses we are forced to **clear large quantities** of suites and sofas, beds and bedroom, dining furniture, occasional furniture, accessories and much much more.

There has never been a better time to grab your self a bargain

DOORS OPEN TODAY 9AM SHARP

FINAL 4 DAYS

SALE ENDS SUNDAY

fw homestores .co.uk

NEW LATE NIGHT MONDAYS Open till 8pm

PENARTH ROAD CARDIFF

Unit 5, Freemans Park, Penarth Road, Cardiff, CF11 8TU.

Tel: 02920 371970

www.fwhomestores.co.uk

take up to 30 months FREE credit

no interest no charges 0% typical APR

Opening Times

Mon: 9.00am - 8.00pm.
Tue - Sat: 9.00am - 6.00pm
Sunday: 10.30am - 4.30pm

Question Time taster for Vale village competition

Picture by HEATHER MARCH

THE gardening question time recently held at Dyffryn Gardens was hailed as a great success by the chairman of the Best Kept Village competition, Irena Wasilewska.

She said: "We were delighted to welcome nearly 60 people to a very pleasant afternoon in which members of the audience asked their gardening questions and exchanged views with a panel of very well informed gardening experts.

"My thanks go to the panellists, Clare Revera from Out to Learn Willow; www.outtolearnwillow.co.uk; Alex Luker, Head Gardener at Dyffryn Gardens; Ennid Hart, former Pencoed College lecturer, and Claire Jenkins from Bordervale Plants www.bordervale.co.uk who gave up their time and helped make this an interesting and enjoyable afternoon."

The 2014 Best Kept Village Competition will be getting under way in the next few weeks. There is a 'special feature' category whereby a village feature, such as a pond, village green, or area of waste land, could be transformed into a feature for all residents to enjoy.

The judges are keen to point out that the competition is not about pretty villages with quaint features. Rather it is an excellent opportunity to bring the community together while at the same time improving the appearance of an area and bringing pleasure and a sense of achievement to all those involved with its improvement.

Judging will take place between June 23 and July 11, and the winners will be announced at a special awards evening on July 17.

All Vale villages are invited to compete.

For further information, contact Carole Alexander at: ***carole.alexander1@hotmail.co.uk***

WILDLIFE AWARDS

VALE of Glamorgan Biodiversity Partnership 'Awards for Wildlife' competition is again open for entries.

Practical projects that help native wildlife, while engaging children, undertaken by schools, colleges, education centres and children's groups are eligible.

Closing date for entries is Wednesday, April 30 and the winner will receive a trophy during the Grand Parade at the Vale of Glamorgan show on Wednesday, August 13; certificate and £250 prize money, kindly donated by RWE Npower Aberthaw. There are also prizes of £100 and £50 for second and third places.

For further information and an application pack, contact Andrea Rowe at the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry CF63 4RT, phone 01446 704631 or email acrowe@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Do not delay in making claims!

MANY tenants are unaware that they have a right to make a claim against their landlords for not registering their bonds/deposits.

From April 6, 2007, if a tenant provided their landlord with a deposit for a property it required registration. The time scale varies depending on when the tenant entered the tenancy; however they should have been provided with a registration certificate.

If the landlord failed to register the deposit the tenant can claim up to three times the rent.

Catherine from Newbold Solicitors has had a 100 per cent success rate in bringing claims against landlords on behalf of tenants.

Catherine says: "When I first became a housing solicitor I was always in Court representing tenants who could not get their bonds returned to them from their landlords at the end of their tenancies.

"It was only the bravest tenant who went through the court process to recover the money that was due to them.

"The Courts were inundated with claims, so in 2007, the Housing Act introduced a bill whereby landlords had to register the bonds in an appropriate within 14 days of receiving it, which has now been increased to 30 days.

"Once the bond was registered if there was a dispute, the scheme would instruct their arbitrator to decide who should have the bond, and whether any deductions could be made.

"However, some landlords still try and keep the bond and this is the reason why the tenants are eligible for damages/compensation."

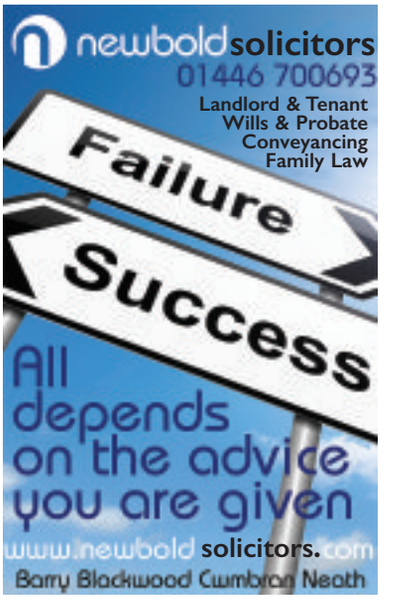
Some landlords are still unaware of the need to register the bond and they may have the property rented through an agent.

If the agent has not registered the bond, then the landlord may have a claim against the agent for his/her loss.

Further, without the registering of the bond and the serving of a prescribed notice, it can be more difficult to regain possession of the property.

If you are a tenant, Newbolds may be able to help you on a 'no win no fee' basis; and we may also be able to help landlords who have not had their bonds registered by their agent.

Please telephone our housing team on 01446 700693, who can assess your claim for free.



Bedroom Furniture

BARGAINS!!!

It's that time of year again. Spring clearout time!
At Town & Country Bedrooms we have a huge choice of Clearance Bedroom Furniture available from stock.
Freestanding wardrobes, sliding door wardrobes, chests of drawers and lots more. It's all got to go!

Everything in this ad is available for prompt delivery or collection. Apart from the usual quality you expect from us, with all these items **you will not buy cheaper! Remember, it's first come first served. No exceptions!**

Buy this Wardrobe...
...get these Chests FREE!

All these chests 50% off!
From £89 only
High quality factory assembled units. Take away today!

Kingstown Signature

SALE!!!

50% OFF!!!

Call in today and get a REAL BARGAIN Don't miss this one!

This Miami 225cm sliding door robe. Now only £599.
FREE DELIVERY & ASSEMBLY!

Town & Country Bedrooms

www.townandcountrybedrooms.co.uk

SLIDING DOORS WALES.COM

Tel: 01656 657526

Unit 1 North Point,
Western Avenue,
Bridgend Industrial Estate
Bridgend CF31 3RX
Tel: 01656 657526

COED-Y-MWSTWR
HOTEL - *Bridgend*

A Glamorgan GEM Advertising Feature

'Hidden gem' hotel takes another step forward with a £350,000 investment to give clients what they really need

THE Coed-y-Mwstwr Hotel in Coychurch, Bridgend, has been acknowledged as a high-quality four-star venue in the area for some time now, but a new £350,000 investment is aiming to take it on to the next level.

It is all part of a constant improvement programme that is designed to place the historic hotel right at the forefront of south Wales' hotels.

What's more, the investment will create new jobs in the area, and it sends a strong message that the Coed-y-Mwstwr is a hotel that is going places.

Ironically, the Coed-y-Mwstwr's secluded location, which is such an important feature of the hotel, means that local people tend to be unaware of the changes that have already taken place over the last 14 years.

Guests who have stayed there are full of praise for the hotel, and they certainly appreciate all the new facilities, and also enjoy the surrounding 17 acres of woodland and countryside.

It is even better for golfers, as they are right next door to a golf course!

However, for many local people it may be a while since they visited, – and they simply don't know what they are missing.

Now, this new £350,000 investment offers the chance to see just what has been happening at the Coed-y-Mwstwr.

So how is the money being spent? Well, the Town & Country Hotels Group has marked 14 successful years in charge by developing the Hendre Function Suite.

The group also owns The Bear Hotel and Oscars in Cowbridge, the New House Country Hotel in Cardiff, as well as its outside catering operation, Town & Country Catering.

The Hendre Function Room has been extended in response to demand, while the access and facilities have been vastly improved, in keeping with the newly-refurbished accommodation throughout the hotel.

The Managing Director of the Town & Country Hotels Group, Julian Hitchcock, originally bought the Coed y Mwstwr Hotel as a three-star country house hotel from Virgin Hotels in 1999.

The hotel had been through a number of owners in the 80s and 90s, but Mr Hitchcock could see real potential.

It has since gone on to achieve the prestigious four-star rating, as well as gaining two rosettes for the award-winning restaurant.

Julian said: "We were frequently asked by our current and potential customers for a meeting area to accommodate a large stage set, with improved disabled access – and I am pleased to say we have been able to achieve this.

"We've also ensured that the design, while modern, is in keeping with the hotel and its character – our new internal ceiling now boasts some amazing beams.

"The response from our many guests, both for business and weddings has been very positive. We've also created a number of new jobs over the years, including the most recent appointments to tie in with the expansion."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17)

RETAIL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2013
- For the very best in Vintage homeware and gifts.
- Open 7 days a week.
- Cafe in store too.

Church Street, Cowbridge, CF71 7BB
www.happydaysvintageshomestore.co.uk
Also at Happy Days @ The Barn, Ogmore by Sea, CF32 OQP for gifts and interiors

Catering for South Wales businesses for more than 100 years
Units 8-12 Spetter Ind. Est., Nantyffylion, Maesteg, CF34 OTY. 01656 733186.
www.talgarthbakery.co.uk
Suppliers to Coed Y Mwstwr Hotel

Radford TRAINING
THE REGION'S LEADING PERSONAL LICENCE PROVIDER
Very competitive prices
for further details, please call
07775 557183
www.radfordtraining.com

LEEWAY
We are pleased to supply The Coed Y Mwstwr Hotel and wish them continued success
550-555 Llantrisant Road, Pencoedcae, Pontypridd CF37 1PL. Tel: 01443 400680
www.leewayflooring.co.uk
E-Mail: sales@leewayflooring.co.uk

COED-Y-MWSTWR HOTEL - *Bridgend*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

Julian added: "Investment back into the business has always been important to me and it is what has helped maintain our four stars and the standard that represents.

"The latest development will give the hotel the additional capacity it needs as we look to host larger scale events in Bridgend county.

"We're also planning to further develop our outside space to encourage more team building and corporate events."

Since Town & Country bought the hotel 14 years ago, there have been plenty of other extras added, including a gymnasium and a sauna – while there have been extensive interior refurbishments as well.

The 35 individually decorated en-suite bedrooms ensure all modern comforts and facilities are provided.

Weddings have become more and more popular, and this can only increase now that the larger function room is added to the overall offer.

Afternoon champagne teas have also been a recent addition, and a number of people have used this as a chance to take a good look at this elegant country house, built in 1888, that is now a haven for visitors and guests.

Few settings are more aptly named, for Coed-y-Mwstwr translates as 'Whispering Trees' – and the continued investment in this 'hidden gem' will build on this sense of tranquillity -– and create a venue that aims to meet the expectations of their guests from far and wide.

Symposium, the obvious choice for your print partner.

Units 27G & H,
Vale Business Park, Llandow,
Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7PF
Tel: 01446 771393

email: info@symposiumprint.co.uk
www.symposiumprint.co.uk

Proud to supply The Coed Y Mwstwr Hotel

jvh Communications Ltd

Starting a Business?
Moving one?
Growing one?
Need to get online?
Maintenance?

FOR ALL YOUR COMMUNICATIONS NEEDS

01656 30 30 30
www.jvhcommunications.co.uk

Proud suppliers to the Coed-Y-Mwstwr Hotel

Ffion (12) *and friends* wear purple in Epilepsy Week

ABOVE : Ffion's friends go purple for Epilepsy Week.

TWELVE-year-old Ffion Williams from Treoes, who suffers from epilepsy, arranged for her friends to dress in purple as part of Epilepsy Week, and invited Vale MP Alun Cairns to join them.

Ffion said she was diagnosed with temporal lobe epilepsy last autumn and that the seizures have a serious impact: "Although my intelligence level is the same, my speech sounds like a six-year-old, although I am actually 12.

"It can be quite emotional and comical at the same time. Sometimes I do a funny dance and occasionally swear! I don't remember the seizures happening, but they occur every evening. I don't remember any evening since last November.

"I want Mr Cairns to help raise the matter in Parliament and with the National Assembly, because many people are misdiagnosed. "

The MP commented: "Ffion is remarkable. I am hugely impressed with her maturity and attitude. Along with her parents, she is determined to help ensure that people are properly diagnosed. There is evidence that suggests the symptoms can be misunderstood.

"I have tabled questions in Parliament to establish what networks exist between specialist doctors and want to work with Epilepsy UK to ensure GPs receive the information they need.

"There are tens of different types of epilepsy, often with different symptoms. I want to ensure that our local doctors are part of the UK network of specialists," he vowed.

BHBi donates £1,000 to Macmillan charity

BHBi's director of strategic operations Paul Haley is pictured left, with Rebecca Parke of Macmillan, and BHBi's managing director Mark Barnes on the right.

BHBi has donated £1,000 to Macmillan Cancer Support for the second consecutive year.

Director of strategic operations, Paul Haley said: "As the UK's largest private sector provider of professional Internal Audit training, we strongly believe in social responsibility and are delighted to have made a £1,000 donation to such a worthwhile charity on behalf of all our Internal Audit students."

"This is the second successive annual donation and shows our commitment to building on our growing relationship with Macmillan. We further hope we can encourage our Alumni to also support our charitable aims which will demonstrate that we and our fellow internal audit profession colleagues care about the society in which we operate."

Rebecca Parke, Fundraising Manager for Macmillan Cancer Support said: "I want to say a huge thank you to everyone at BHBi for choosing to support Macmillan Cancer Support by raising funds with a donation from student enrolments."

The donation came as a result of a training course discussion with students during a module on corporate social responsibility. Following a class debate, BHBi staff decided that there was an opportunity for the company to make a bigger difference and show that BHBi and the Internal Audit community can make an impact on wider society.

Valeways guided walks

TUESDAY, April 1: 10am – Hoffi Cerdded, Hoffi Coffi; start at Coffee Cove Cafe, Barry Island.

Wednesday, April 2: 10.30am – Coffee Shop Strollers, start at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

'VALE OF JAM' PLAY SCARLETS!

LOCAL acoustic duo The Vale of Jam-Morgan will be playing at Scarlets bar, Broad Street, Barry this Saturday (March 29) from 9pm.

With an eclectic mix of material spanning the 1960s to the present day, featuring songs from The Beatles to Pharrel, they're a live act not to be missed!

ABOVE: Prof Egan with Jane Hutt and Coun Elmore and staff and students at Cardiff and Vale College.

Vale challenge to 'realise every child's potential'

CIVIC and business leaders have been warned – *"we need to be clear about the challenge in realising the potential of every child in the Vale".*

It came at the 14th annual spring breakfast on Friday (March 21) held by Vale AM Jane Hutt at Cardiff and Vale College in Barry, when the theme was 'Education in the Vale', with guest speakers Prof David Egan and Coun Chris Elmore.

Professor Egan's message was that the task requires leadership and engagement from the early years with families, communities, governors and parents, overcoming barriers and disadvantage, through Welsh Government programmes like Flying Start and Families First.

Ms Hutt commented: "This was my 14th spring breakfast in the Hospitality Suite at Colcot Road, Barry, cooked and served by students, providing valuable work experience as part of the course at the college.

"I congratulated the students on their culinary and hospitality skills and told them that they had good job and career prospects to meet the growing tourism and hospitality sector in Wales," the AM added. (*See page 9*).

Local primary pupils' six-mile chariot pull

ABOVE; The five charioteers.

FIVE pupils from year-6 in Llancarfan Primary School raised £441.57 with a 6-mile chariot pull dressed as sports stars.

Sam, Harry, Dylan, Joe and Gruff took turns to pull the chariot through the village of Llancarfan.

It was a magnificent effort and we'd like to congratulate the boys on a job well done!

The boys would like to thank all those who donated. ***If others would like to contribute, please use just giving page http://www.justgiving.com/jo-ford4.*** **JF**

Shy U3A shine!

DESPITE the considerable opposition of teams from Maesteg (two) Bridgend (two) Cardiff (two) and Porthcawl (one), all of whom were generous and gracious losers, Cowbridge U3A emerged as what must be assumed to be Glamorgan, if not Wales', U3A quiz champions.

As is our unassuming nature, we will not name ourselves as Fran, Hywel, Steve, Dafydd and Tim. **TB**

'Repair park wall' – CALL

RESIDENTS living in the Bassett area of Barry are calling for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to take action on a damaged park wall.

The call was made at the recent Court PACT meeting, where they asked for action to repair the damaged wall between Bassett Park and the Tadcross Pub.

Local councillor Richard Bertin says he has now taken the matter up with the authority. He says he agrees with local residents as there is both a safety and security issue at the park.

Cardiff and Vale College
Coleg Caerdydd a'r Fro

Start College in 2014!

Last chance to come to an open evening

Tuesday 8th April, 2014
4.30pm–7.30pm at Colcot Road, Barry

OR

Wednesday 9th April, 2014
4.30pm–7.30pm at Cardiff sites

For full details of subjects and locations and to register your place visit:
www.cavc.ac.uk/startcollegein2014 **info@cavc.ac.uk** **030 30 30 10 10**

Dream it. Live it. Make it happen with Cardiff and Vale College.

Cardiff and Vale College
Coleg Caerdydd a'r Fro

Dechreuwch yn y Coleg yn 2014!

Cyfle olaf i ddod i noson agored

Nos Fawrth 8 Ebrill, 2014
4.30pm–7.30pm, Heol Colcot, y Barri

NEU

Nos Fercher 9 Ebrill, 2014
4.30pm–7.30pm, safleoedd Caerdydd

Am fanylion llawn y pynciau a'r lleoliadau ac i gofrestru eich lle, ewch i:
www.cavc.ac.uk/dechraucolegyn2014 **info@cavc.ac.uk** **030 30 30 10 10**

Breuddwydio. Byw. Gwireddu gyda Choleg Caerdydd a'r Fro.

'Progress made on automated gates dangers' – BRIDGEND MP

FOUR years after the tragic death of a young child in an automated gate incident, Madeleine Moon MP has had a meeting with Mike Penning, minister responsible for the Health and Safety Executive, and the founder of Gate Safe, Richard Jackson (pictured above).

The accident in Bridgend in 2010 resulted in the death of Karolina Golabek, aged five, and the MP explained: "The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the achievements of the Gate Safe charity to date. The Rt Hon Mike Penning wholly supported the need to continue to enhance awareness of the importance of adopting the correct safety protocol for automated gates.

Mrs Moon, who is patron of Gate Safe, went on: "The meeting with the Minister was very positive and we appear to have made considerable progress. Mike Penning had been shocked to learn of the death of two children as a result of problems with electric gates and was eager to ensure that a close working relationship between the HSE and Gate Safe is achieved to raise safety standards.

"I was especially pleased that he instructed officials to ensure the HSE guidance for gate installation was updated quickly on their website."

Richard Jackson, founder of Gate Safe added: "Since October 2010, when Gate Safe handed in a petition to 10 Downing Street to highlight the urgent need to address safety issues relating to automated gates, our campaign has made considerable progress.

"However, we would like to work with the Health and Safety Executive to further improve the understanding of what constitutes a safe automated gate, and what steps must be taken to establish – and maintain – a safe electric gate."

PONTYCLUN RALLIES TO MACMILLAN!

IN their first year the Pontyclun & District Macmillan fundraising support group raised over £6,000 and to celebrate this first anniversary, they are planning to stage a Variety Night.

It will be held at Llanharry Workingmen's Club, on April 4, at 7.30pm, and with the support of the club, entertainment includes Daniel 'Ollie Murs' Cadogan; Stephen Preston composer, arranger and songwriter; Julie 'poems & pints' Croad; ladies choir O2Five; comedian Steve Saint; Minniesingers Male Chorus and the talented pupils of Y Pant School with a musical medley.

Tickets £5 include food, available from The Flower Pot, The Community Shop or Rybec Estate Agents all in Pontyclun, also from The Llanharry Workingmens Club, Llanharry.

Alternatively, Edwina Clark (07710198617), Pat Clash (07974183987), Julie Croad (07933944165), Jeanie Heavisides (01443 230249) or Ann Bennett (01443 225187).

Rebecca Parke, Macmillan fundraising manager, said: "The Pontyclun & District group have gone from strength to strength since forming in early 2013.

They have not only raised over £6,000 to support local people affected by cancer, but are really bringing the community together with their fundraising.

"They've had brilliant support from all over the area and continue to achieve great things in the community.

"Macmillan can only fund services thanks to the generosity of the public."

To find out more how you can help, call 0300 1000 200 or visit www.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising.

Ploughing furrows at Ogmore by Sea

THE Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society will be running a ploughing coaching course on Saturday, March 29, at Ogmore-by Sea (by permission of Mr Graham David) near the old Sealawns hotel/pub.

There will be car parking space available in the Sealawns car park. Ploughing coaches and judges will be on site from 10.30am to give advice.

Further information from the chairman, Andrew Studley, on 07980 921990.

Rosie heads for book talk

BEST-selling author and adventurer Rosie Thomas will be in Cowbridge on April 4, as guest of the Cowbridge Book Festival, where she will talk about her recently published novel, *The Illusionists*, in the United Free Church at 7.30pm.

Originally from north Wales, Rosie won a scholarship and became a boarder at Howell's School and went on to read English at St Hilda's College, Oxford.

After a few years working for women's magazines, her first novel was published in 1982.

She is now the author of over 20 novels, most recently the award-winning **Iris and Ruby** and **The Kashmir Shawl** (published in 2012 to critical acclaim).

All proceeds from 2014 Festival events will be donated to The Noah's Ark Appeal Children's Hospital of Wales, and Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

Contact *www.cowbridgebookfestival.co.uk.*

Tickets are available from David Barnes (dry cleaners) 35 High Street, Cowbridge; Nicklebys, Pound Field, Llantwit Majoror; online from TicketlineUK or via the Festival Website; or phone Stella Cheeseman 01446 774827. **SRC**

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D819.

● **£2,000:** 650292.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £8,000 was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 534343, 370695, 281447, 364636, 783584, 724023, 703946, 833193, 683370, 178684, 602587, 107345, 545813, 792634, 930450, 344151, 102419, 000749, 000122, 000865.

● **£5:** 408898, 564958, 552826, 351543, 349979, 153775, 309677, 757744, 815070, 621591, 828191, 373512, 642179, 670093, 503016, 497160, 914899, 877994, 244983, 341550, 542524, 526152, 177469, 799313, 249431, 895574, 384148, 880875, 104745, 740589, 292888, 764129, 452181, 311607, 662876, 762837, 102185, 642662, 642295, 385385, 598478, 391611, 320237, 839499, 492591, 854680, 251226, 304453, 817283, 932443, 131365, 777833, 758752, 622636, 261140, 270835, 337143, 784509, 130704, 145853.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Out and About with The GEM

Antique fair

TREASURE Trove Fairs are holding an antique and collectors' fair at Cowbridge Leisure Centre on March 30, with up to 40 stands of quality items; it falls on Mothers' Day.

Some dealers will purchase items from customers, and are always ready to give advice. Free parking.

OCEAN LOUNGE
PORTHKERRY
Saturday 29th March
'TWO CAN'
Brilliant Duo
Sunday 30th March
MOTHER'S DAY
Traditional Sunday Roast
Two Courses £8.95
Bookings Now being taken
Saturday 5th April
'STEVE HARDING'
Great Vocalist
SUNDAY LUNCH 12-3pm Booking recommended
Fabulous HOME COOKED FOOD exceptional Prices!
EVERY FRIDAY Karaoke, Games & Shenanigans with Friday Funday!
BINGO every Friday & Saturday
Find us on facebook
01446 710362/711538

Bute Park talk

RHOOSE and District History Society will present a talk by Rosie James on 'Bute Park Cardiff's hidden history', on Friday March 28 at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road.

Tickets at the door: £1 per adult' 50p per child (under 16 yrs).

Shakespeare exhibition

TO celebrate the 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, Wales Millennium Centre will be the first venue to display a new touring exhibition from the Victoria and Albert Museum – 'Shooting Shakespeare; 150 Years of Stage Photography'.

On display from March 29, the unique exhibition will include production photographs from Shakespeare's Globe's Globe to Globe festival alongside images from the V&A's Theatre and Performance Collections.

Game and Country Fair

THE South Wales Game and Country Fair takes place on Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6.

Living Heritage are proud to add the venue of Fonmon Castle to their series of shows.

It offers family entertainment in three main arenas, with country sports and pursuits performed by some of the countryside's top names and associations.

The event include and appearance in the Andy Singleton Arena of the Scurry Driving Championship team, an explosive display of scurry driving at its best; and Horseboarding, with a national championship qualifying heat.

Slalom, falconry, gundog and sheepdog displays, fishing, ferret racing, lurchers and terriers are other varied demonstrations.

Flying displays include Bateleur, Russian Step and African Fish Eagles.

Childrens' entertainment includes puppet shows, waterballs, bouncy castles, how to 'handle a gundog', how to 'fish', or 'fly a hawk, or owl' in the falconry village.

In addition, there are trade exhibitors, craft village and cookery demonstrations in the Food Show.

Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6; open 10am-6pm daily at Fonmon Castle, Fonmon, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3ZN; adults £12, over-65s £11; children £4.

Full show details available on www.livingheritagecountryshows.com; telephone 01283 820548.

Saturday & Sunday April 5th & 6th
South Wales Game & Country Fair
A large Country Fair with three action packed arenas presenting country sports and pursuits at their very best. Enjoy Falconry, Sheepdogs, Gundogs and Scurry Racing. Check out the Food Show, the Owl Show, the Eagle Show. Try out lots of country sports, Shooting, Fishing and Dog Handling . . . Yes there's
Lots to See! Lots to Do! Lots to Buy!
Please view the website for more details
A Superb Family Day Out
Fonmon Castle Fonmon, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3ZN
Admission: Adults: £12.00 Over 65's: £11.00 Child: £4.00 10.000am - 6.00pm Daily
www.livingheritagecountryshows.com Tel: 01283 820 548

WHAT'S ON *in brief*

Art society

ON Thursday, April 3, Cowbridge Art Society holds its annual Keith James Trophy when members' paintings will be assessed by local artist Lesley Dearn (see www.lesleydearn.co.uk).

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7 – 9pm) and visitors and new members are welcome. For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

History lecture

COWBRIDGE History Society meets on Friday, April 4 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge, when the Maud Gunter Memorial lecture – Mary Andrews, Postmistress, Llantwit Major in the 1930s – will be given by Chris Young.

This is a change to the published programme. Members should note that the society's AGM will be held on Friday, May 2 at 6.30pm.

Charity boot sale

There is a boot sale at The Rest in Porthcawl every Sunday (weather permitting) starting Sunday April 6 at 7am till 1pm; £6 per car, £12 per van.

Car park for buyers; donation 50p; take-away tea/coffee and snacks available. All proceeds to Healing the Wounds charity.

Tax help for elderly

TAXHELP for Older People (TOP) Surgery will be at Roz Couzens' Chiropody Surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House, Commercial Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1RBH on April 7 from 10am until midday.

No appointment is necessary. People can call in for free advice. To access the TOP's helpline, telephone 0845 6013321, or 01308 488066. Home visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

Shadows club

ON April 8, Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road (029 2030 9979) will stage the South Wales Shadows Club's meeting. Play (use PA) or just listen; 8pm; usually £3; all are welcome.

Crime prevention

BRIDGEND Police will be holding a crime reduction event on Wednesday, April 9 at Castle Bingo, Bridgend, opened by the Mayor, Coun Clive James at 9.30am.

The local policing team and a number of agencies will give advice on how to keep safe in your home.

Lions' book and DVD sale

THE Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will be holding a book sale on the Precinct, Llantwit Major on April 12 from 10am – 4pm.

The club welcomes donations of new books to add to their stock and DVDs which must be in good condition.

Contact the Lions at www.lmandclions.org.uk or eamil info@lamdnclions.org.uk (telephone 0845 833 6763).

Walk the Vale for charity

THE Ed Evans Foundation, which raises money for The Brain Tumour Charity in Wales will Walk the Vale on Easter Monday (April 21).

There will be a long walk and short walk, starting from The Plough and Harrow, Monknash CF71 7QQ. Registration for both walks from 9am; £5 entry fee.

Form and information available from: www.edevansfoundation.co.uk; Sue Evans Tel: 01656 890217.

Charity gala

A MICHAEL (Clive) Down Gala Charity Evening (Er budd Ambiwlans Awyr Cymru – In aid of Wales Air Ambulance) will be held with Kenfig Hill & District Male Voice Choir and special guests Ogmore Valley Silver Band, Stephen Ulberini (tenor) and Stefanie Harvey-Powell (soprano) at Bethlehem Life Centre, Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend on Saturday, April 12 at 7pm.

CRESTA COACHES
Day Trips & Tours Spring & Summer 2014

Date	Day	Destination	Adult Fare	OAP Child
29/3/2014	Saturday	Cotswolds Villages – Day Trip	£11.95	£10.95
12/4/2014	Saturday	Weston Super Mare	£12.00	£11.00
19/4/2014	Saturday	Windsor & Legoland (Coach Only)	£14.00	£13.00
22/4/2014	Tuesday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£9.00
26/4/2014	Saturday	West Midlands Safari (Coach Only)	£14.50	£13.50
06/5/2014	Tuesday	Abergavenny Market	£9.95	£9.50
10/5/2014	Saturday	Malvern Spring Gardening Show (Coach Only)	£11.50	£10.50
17/5/2014	Saturday	London Flyer, Sights or London Show (Coach Only)	£15.50	£15.00
24/5/2014	Saturday	Drayton Manor (Coach Only)	£14.00	£13.00
26/5/2014	Monday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£9.00
07/6/2014	Saturday	Stratford Upon Avon	£12.95	£11.95
13/6/2014	Friday	Cotswolds, 4 Day Short Break Weekend	£171.50	£171.50
14/6/2014	Saturday	Oxford City Centre	£14.00	£13.50
21/6/2014	Saturday	Ross on Wye 'Labels' & Gloucester Quays	£11.50	£10.50
28/6/2014	Saturday	Cotswolds Villages – Day Trip	£11.95	£10.95
05/7/2014	Saturday	Street Village & Weston Super Mare	£12.50	£11.50
12/7/2014	Saturday	Worcester	£13.75	£13.00
18/7/2014	Friday	Cheshire, 4 Day Short Break Weekend	£185.00	£185.00
19/7/2014	Saturday	Haverfordwest & St Davids City	£14.00	£13.50
23/7/2014	Wednesday	Royal Welsh Show, Coach Only	£12.00	£11.50
25/7/2014	Friday	Lincoln, 4 Day Short Break Weekend	£159.50	£159.50
11/8/2014	Monday	Norwich & Sandringham, 5 Day Holiday, 4*	£264.00	£264.00
01/9/2014	Monday	Cork Ireland, 5 Day Holiday, 4* Hotel	£355.00	£355.00
3/10/2014	Friday	Cotswolds, 4 Day Short Break Weekend	£171.50	£171.50

Short Break Holidays Summer 2014
Friday 13th June & 17th October 2014. Cotswolds, 4 days Friday to Monday. Adults £171.50.
Friday 18th July 2014. Cheshire, 4 days Friday to Monday. Adults £185.
Friday 27th July 2014. Lincoln, 4 days Friday to Monday. Adults £159.50.
Monday 11th August 2014. Norwich 5 days Monday to Friday. Adults £264.
Monday 1st September 2014. Cork, Ireland, 5 days Monday to Friday. Adults £355.
Call our reservations line for further information on 01656 660366
Additional Summer, Autumn & Winter dates will be added to our full 2014 programme. Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential. Local pickups throughout South Wales.
For further information on our day trips or the hire of coaches or mini-buses
Telephone 01656 660366
or call at Cresta Coaches, Unit 6, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 FAL

CLEARLY THE BEST FOR WINDOWS AND DOORS

✓ Transparent prices, no deposits FACT
✓ Most energy efficient products FACT
✓ Most secure locking systems FACT
✓ 140 year company history FACT

60 x 110cm / 2ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £320

90 x 110cm / 3ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £370

120 x 110cm / 4ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £415

180 x 110cm / 6ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £550

100 x 150cm / 3ft 3in x 5ft
Double Glazed £460

240 x 110cm / 8ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £650

180 x 110cm / 6ft x 3ft 7in
Double Glazed £1,290

WINDOWS • DOORS
MADE IN WALES

0% FINANCE AVAILABLE

OUR WINDOW & DOOR PRICES ALL INCLUDE:

SURVEY ✓ LOCKS ✓ HINGES ✓ GLASS ✓ FRAMES ✓ SILLS ✓
INSTALLATION ✓ VAT ✓ NO HIDDEN EXTRAS EVER ✓

COLOURED COMPOSITE DOORS

£929

UPVC FRONT DOORS

£720

UPVC BACK DOORS

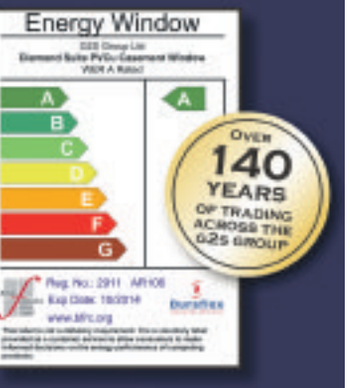
£660

FRENCH DOORS

£950 179 x 210cm 5ft 11in x 7ft

PATIO DOORS

£850 179 x 210cm 5ft 11in x 7ft



G2S WALES
Part of the G2S Group Ltd

01633 479 573
Calls charged at a local rate from landlines, mobile costs vary, consult your provider.

Unit 1 York Park,
Bridgend Industrial Estate,
Bridgend CF31 3TB
Opening Soon
www.g2swales.co.uk

10 YEAR GUARANTEE ON ALL PRODUCTS ◆ FREE QUOTES

The G2S Group reserve the right to withdraw any offer without prior notice. Photographs and illustrations are for illustrative purposes only, and the copyright belongs to G2S Group Ltd. Each section of a bay window counts as one window. Colours and finishes available at extra cost. Finance available on all orders over £1000, subject to status, terms and conditions apply.

RHOOSE BOWLING CLUB

'Bowls - a sport for all ages'

Discover a new sport at the Rhoose Bowling Club's 'open day' on April 5!

RHOOSE Bowling Club is holding an 'open day' on Saturday, April 5, with an invitation to people of all ages to find out about the sport and learn from qualified coaches.

Brian Shears, who has been the chairman for two years, emphasised that the event was an ideal opportunity for local people to find out more about the club situated on Celtic Way.

"Rhoose Bowling Club is a go-ahead club eager to attract members from all age groups.

"We already have links to the local primary school, who are encouraged to enjoy bowling at the club, and strong links to the community also.

"We also provide training facilities for the Welsh national team, who are currently preparing for the Commonwealth Games being held in Glasgow later this year."

The day is free – all people have to do is bring along suitable footwear.

"We hope to welcome all ages, and are particularly keen to see ladies and teenagers coming along.

"The national team and county team tend to be people in their 30s and we want to encourage a new generation."

The club is already putting in time with youngsters at Rhoose Primary School.

Brian explained: "They come for six PE lessons during the summer. When they come for the final session, we hold a competition with parents and present prizes.

"Unlike other areas, such as Barry and Llantwit Major, we don't have a secondary school close by – that's why we're keen to encourage local teenagers to come along to the open day.

"Last year, we welcomed the Girl Guides and the Scouts and if local youth groups would like to come along, they are very welcome.

"We supply all the equipment and free coaching. All people have to do is bring along a pair of flat shoes."

Brian and the club have even got advice from the very top in how to promote the club.

"John Price, the world champion, has been giving us some ideas. He is the promotions man for the World Bowls Federation."

So what can people expect on Saturday, April 5?

"There will be a meet and greet, and time for a coffee and chat.

"All the equipment will be ready and laid out – we have five coaches at the club – and it will be a case of going out and enjoying playing."

So make a date at this friendly, sociable local bowling club at 2pm on April 5!

ABOVE:
Visit Rhoose Bowling Club on April 5 and you'll get a chance to play a game on the green.

Rhoose Pharmacy Ltd
53 Fontygary Road, Rhoose
Professional and caring advice given.
We are pleased to support Rhoose Bowling Club
Open 9 - 5.30pm Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri.
9- 6pm Tues. 9-12.30pm Sat.
Open lunchtimes.
01446 710277

RHOOSE BOWLING CLUB
Celtic Way, Rhoose
All Weather International Standard Carpet
Join us on Saturday April 5th 2-5pm for our OPEN DAY
Bowls - The Sport for all ages
Bring the family along for a taster session with our qualified coaches. (Flat shoes required)
Telephone: 01446 710072 or 713820

BLUE RIDGE CANINE ACADEMY
Dog & Puppy Training
Supporting Rhoose Bowling Club
01446 719898
info@blueridgeacademy.co.uk

The Fontygary Inn
Home cooked food served daily. Lunchtime offers available
Supporting Rhoose Bowling Club
Fonmon Road, Rhoose
01446 711221
www.fontygaryinn.co.uk

DEANO'S BARBER SHOP
OAP Rates Available
We are pleased to support Rhoose Bowling Club
7 Fontygary Road, RHOOSE,
Tel: 07791 917699

Coffee Time
Open Mon - Sat 9 - 4.30pm
We are pleased to support Rhoose Bowling Club
21 Fontygary Rd, Rhoose
01446 711600

posh pawz
Salon & Spa
Professional K9 Beauticians
Supporting Rhoose Bowling Club
11 Fontygary Road, Rhoose CF62 3DR
01446 710044
www.poshpawzsalonandspa.co.uk

Supporting 'Rhoose Bowling Club' since 1989
Chris Davies
Tel: 01446 711900
www.chris-davies.co.uk

The Highwayman Inn
Fonmon, Rhoose
OVER 60s SPECIAL MENU
Monday-Saturday 12noon-3pm
Traditional, fresh, homecooked meals
Superb choice.. only £4.75
We are pleased to support Rhoose Bowling Club
01446 710205
www.highwayman-pub.com

ABSOLUTE BOWLS
We are delighted to support Rhoose Bowling Club
01792 589 147
Unit 1, Prydwen Road, Fforestfach, Swansea, West Glamorgan SA5 4HN.
sales@absolutebowls.com

Welsh stars get off their bikes to judge some cakes and scones!

... ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE FOR SPORT RELIEF

WORLD champion cyclist Becky James and London 2012 Paralympic gold medallist Aled Davies, put the brakes on their gruelling training regimes and stepped into the kitchen to judge SWALEC's Sport Relief baking competition.

The Welsh stars joined hundreds of SWALEC employees at their Cardiff offices to help raise money for Sport Relief. Becky and Aled had the enviable task of judging the quality of cakes, scones and other sweet treats made by staff to raise money for the charity.

SWALEC employees also had the chance to be champs for the day, paying a donation to Sport Relief to wear Aled's prized Paralympic gold medal from London 2012.

Aled said: "I'm training hard for Glasgow 2014, but I couldn't resist having one day off to play Paul Hollywood to Becky's Mary Berry for the day. SWALEC is a big supporter of both of us and so it's been great to come along here today to help support staff raising money for a fantastic cause."

Wendy Barbour, SWALEC's Director of Sponsorship and Commonwealth Games, said the company and staff were proud to be an official partner of Sport Relief and playing a part in raising millions for charity.

She said: "There's been a tremendous amount of fundraising activity across all SSE offices, from 24-hour rowing competitions to sporting challenges. The SSE Sport Relief baking competition is slightly less energetic but no less competitive, and it's fantastic to have Aled and Becky here to judge the winner.

The money raised by Sport Relief goes to help vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the UK and across the world, giving them a helping hand to turn their lives around.

Looking back on a full life with no regrets

I WAS born in London on April 5, 1914, just before the First World War started.

My first childhood memory was when aged three and a half years, I saw an airship in the sky, searchlights flashing away, and the sound of heavy gunfire taking place (it was wartime).

Also at the same age my mother paid a halfpenny a week for me to attend school.

From the beginning, the teacher stood in front with a picture and we had to say – "C-A-T, cat; D-O-G, dog; S-U-N, sun," etc.

By the age of five years I could read a child's comic.

Still in London during the Second World War I was in the Fire Service throughout the Blitz, being bombed day and night.

Two things have stayed in my memory: the afternoon when the London docks were bombed. The whole of the sky was lit up and it was days before it was put out.

The other was a telegram asking me to go to East Driffield because my brother (an airgunner on the German raids) was involved in a fatal accident.

I was taken to the mortuary and I could not believe my eyes. From the floor to the ceiling, it was full of shelves, each one holding an airman on it, a tragic loss of all those young lives.

I have led a very full life being involved in many things and I have no regrets.

Mrs 'Trixie' Heveron, Rhoose.

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. ***Letters and e-mails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number.*** An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Fair funding the way forward'

LAST week, the Vale Conservative group tabled a motion in full council opposing a merger with Cardiff, as recommended by a recent Welsh Government-commissioned report.

We didn't do this to protect our own jobs, nor was it done because we oppose attempts to streamline local government in Wales. We did it because we firmly believe that a return to the bad old days of 'South Glamorgan' would be a disaster for the Vale.

The cost of politics needs to be reduced and we have to find ways, as a council to save money – and to ensure that we spend every penny of your money wisely. But submerging the Vale into a Greater Cardiff region will put our towns and villages at a disadvantage, heightening competition for limited funding, and lead to the decimation of our green areas as we take on a greater share of housing to meet Cardiff's much greater need.

I was angry that residents were hit by the council with a huge council tax rise, but the way to prevent that from happening again is to campaign for fair funding from the Welsh Labour Government – not to merge our council with our much larger neighbours.

Coun John Thomas,
Leader, Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Group.

'WASTE OF OUR TAXES'

IT has now been revealed that this Labour-led Welsh Government are wasting £180,000 of our hard earned taxes on renting a hospitality box at the Millennium Stadium.

Just when is the Assembly First Minister going to be brought to task about the prolific spending of our money?

He refused to use money diverted from the UK Government to the Welsh Government to alleviate the rise in council tax; – has spent over £60 million on Cardiff Airport; over £400,000 on a shuttle bus service from Cardiff to the airport which is hardly being used; over £10,000 on televisions for his Assembly. Was this in his party manifesto before the election?

He believes in democracy, yet refused to give the Welsh people a referendum on council tax rises.

Can you just imagine this lot getting tax raising and borrowing powers?

D J Radford,
Barry.

Merger referendum

I WAS pleased to read that Alun Cairns, in his column last week, picked up my suggestion that a referendum should be held before any merger of the Vale with Cardiff could take place. What views do our Assembly Members have on this exercise of democracy?

Gordon Kemp (former Conservative Leader of the Vale Council,
Walterston.

HATS GALORE – and a cheque for flood victims

JAN LEWIS entertained the Vale NFU Ladies' meeting in Penllyn Village Hall this month by bringing hand crafted hats, fascinations and jewellery; fun was had by all and everyone had a good try on!

The jewellery matching the hats seemed to be a great success. It was a splendid evening and Helena Davies gave the vote of thanks.

Chairperson Ann Rees said that £400 had been sent from the Vale NFU Ladies in support of the Somerset farmers' flood appeal. This was sent via David Harris of Bridgend NFU, in conjunction with the proceeds raised at the entertainment at Barry Memorial Hall.

The next meeting will be held on April 22 at 7.30pm; new members are welcome. **JS**

Mayor's coffee

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of Valeplus on April 1, from 10.30am to 12 noon in the Civic Office. All are welcome.

www.randt.co.uk

R&T Fabrications Ltd

Petrol Mowers from £159

- Sales
- Service
- Spares

Ride-on Mowers from £1099

Unit 20,
Vale Business Park
Llandow CF71 7PF
Tel. 01446 771999

www.mountfieldmowers.co.uk

Mountfield

Get a new look for your kitchen

"When we need another kitchen you will be our first port of call!
Customers Peter & Jan Richards

Kitchen door replacement and makeover specialists - from a family run firm you can trust

We have a HUGE RANGE of door STYLES AND COLOURS to choose from, which can be made to ANY SIZE to replace your current existing doors with minimum fuss.

We can also replace SINKS, TAPS, WORKTOPS AND APPLIANCES.

Door Magic is a family run business with over 15 years of experience in the kitchen industry. We can supply and fit made to measure kitchen and bedroom doors even adding extra units where required.

No salesmen will call; we openly employ qualified, knowledgeable kitchen fitters who are passionate about their trade. This gives you peace of mind when using us to transform your kitchen. We use fully qualified gas safe and NICEIC plumbers and electricians when we need to carry out the necessary work. We can even include all your tiling work to finish off your new look kitchen.

WHY CHOOSE US?
- No salesmen will call
- We are a local company employing local people
- 6 year guarantee on our doors
- We will beat any like for like written quotation
- We do out of hours appointments at our showroom in Bridgend or your home
- Over 15 years experience

For a no obligation quote, visit us at our showroom or call us.
Unit 8, Kodak House, Abergarw Trading Estate, Bridgend, CF32 9LW.
01656 478498 or 02921 971271
See more examples of our work at: www.doormagic.co.uk
Showroom open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 2pm.

Door Magic
Established 15 years

£1,000 SPEND SAVES YOU £200 • £5,000 SPEND SAVES YOU £1,000

0% FINANCE - VAT FREE STARTS MARCH 31st • 0% FINANCE - VAT FREE

WINDOWS, DOORS
M.P.N
& CONSERVATORIES

SHOWROOMS at:
10a Ewenny Road, Bridgend CF31 3HL
Unit 2 Leckwith Road, Cardiff CF11 8AP
Tel: Bridgend 01656 349515
Cardiff 02920 508770
Barry 01446 439212
Freephone 0800 8030821
www.mpnwindows.com

20 YEARS IN BUSINESS

VAT FREE savings

It's true we'll pay your VAT this month

APRIL VAT FREE 20% off everything

Our DOUBLE glazed A rated windows are
AMAZING

- 6 YALE A rated windows fully fitted from £1,995
- A rated YALE composite doors from £895 fully fitted
- A rated French or patio doors fitted from £895
- A rated bifolding doors fitted from £1,495
- Conservatory's fully fitted inc all building works and FREE tiling and underfloor heating from £8,995

Yale Secured PVC Front Doors

10 year guarantee
beautiful designs

only £550* fully fitted!

PVC Back Doors £499*

*Mention This Ad When Ordering

A RATED FREE GLASS
Full Repair Service Available
Fascias, Gutters & Downpipes
Supplied & Fitted

0% Finance Available Buy Now, Pay Next Year

FREE Conservatory Design Service
• FREE Quotations

FREE ONLINE QUOTES AT
www.mpnwindows.com

Probably the best windows and doors in Wales

AN AWARD WINNING FAMILY BUSINESS SINCE 1994

Bridgend 01656 349515 • Cardiff 02920 508770 • Barry 01446 439212

E-mail: mpnwindows@aol.com
Showrooms at: 10a Ewenny Road, Bridgend CF31 3HL
Unit 2 Leckwith Road, Cardiff CF11 8AP
Open 9am to 7pm • 7 days a week

FENSA

TRUST MARK

£20,000 SPEND SAVES YOU £4,000 • £7,000 SPEND SAVES YOU £1,400

Starred Up – a taut and brutal piece of work...

OF all the great British television institutions to provide cinema with a new wave of bright young talent, E4's *Skins* is perhaps the most unlikely; but one look at its graduating class might make you change your mind.

Nicholas Hoult has found himself featuring in the *X-Men* franchise, Dev Patel shone in S*lumdog Millionaire* and is now in Aaron Sorkin's *The Newsroom*, Kaya Scodelario is tipped for big things, and Hannah Murray is in TV's *Game Of Thrones*.

The next alumni aiming to break out is Jack O'Connell, who stars in gritty British drama *Starred Up*; he plays Eric, a troubled and violent teenager who is transferred from a youth offender institute (where he has been classed as 'starred up', i.e a violent youth) to a prison where his father Neville (Ben Mendelsohn) is also incarcerated.

With a volunteer, Oliver (Rupert Friend), attempting to rationalise his behaviour and work out why he leans so much towards violence, will Eric's ways change?...

While there have been many films that have attempted to show the brutal reality of life in prison, no film since Alan Clarke's *Scum* has truly captured the constricting nature of life behind bars, the tension and fear of every moment vividly brought to life.

Time will tell whether *Starred Up* can manage to usurp the 'daddy' of the genre, but on first impressions it certainly puts up a good fight, the film an incredibly taut and brutal piece of work that leaves a lasting impression on you.

Having previously helmed the low-key Scottish drama *Hallam Foe*, David Mackenzie seems an unlikely director for a film that deals in a world of violence and anger, yet his direction is pitch-perfect here.

With hand-held cameras and close-ups granting us an intimate look into prison life, Mackenzie is an unflinching observer, the danger of the world always on the periphery, even in the most sedate of moments.

Mackenzie constantly makes the audience aware of how removed these prisoners are from the real world, either through their behaviour or the constant soundtrack of doors being locked shut; it makes for an immersive experience, one that can feel claustrophobic at times, but that grants the film a mood and atmosphere that enriches the viewing experience.

In the lead role Jack O'Connell is an absolute revelation as Eric; his is a performance of anger and physicality, yet while the actor nails this with precision, it's the more human moments that sing out, the young boy beneath the bluster only ever occasionally coming to the surface.

That isn't to say that the edges are ever really softened – there are no moments of emotional vulnerability, the mask of bravado always in place, but it is O'Connell's ability to shine a light, no matter how small, on these moments that make this a performance to watch.

Ben Mendelsohn makes a perfect foil as his father, the Australian actor giving his best Cockney accent and delivering a low-key, but hugely intense performance, the father/son dynamic the driving force behind the film, and Mendelsohn, who is building up a solid body of work, more than delivers the goods.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Rupert Friend is equally as strong, the slow peeling away of his character's psyche being brought dramatically to life by the actor, whose slight personality gives way to a man who has more in common with the prisoners he volunteers with than he lets on.

Jonathan Asser offers a script that is punchy and engaging, his characters vivid and the situations all too real.

The film can't quite escape the stereotypes you find in this genre – the new boy on the block, the wizened heads helping him, the kingpin who runs the prison, guards who are prepared to turn a blind eye when necessary – but Asser gives them their own sense of purpose and makes the characters feel richer and less predictable, and if the pay-off doesn't quite match the build up, the quality of what has gone before sweetens the pill somewhat; what is undeniable is that by *Starred Up's* credits you'll feel both exhausted and exhilarated by a bold, brutal work.

VERDICT: A stark and bleak film, *Starred Up* drips with superb performances, strong direction and a tight script. Jack O'Connell's lead turn marks him as a talent to watch, but as well as this star-making performance, this is one film that will linger with you after watching. *Highly recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Shifty* (2008), *Scum* (1979).

Nell's Point benefits from coffee morning

Pictured are the Mayor's consort, Mrs Jayne Norman; the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Margaret Wilkinson, and Alan Morgan from Coastwatch.

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor has hosted a coffee morning in aid of the National Coastwatch Institution at Nell's Point, which raised £540.

Nell's Point Station is manned by a team of trained volunteers, who keep watch over the Bristol Channel for the benefit of seafarers and coastal users, and is funded solely by donations and money raised from events such as the coffee morning.

The station was the first one to be established on the Welsh coast, and was built with funding from the National Assembly.

WHAT'S ON / in brief

Spring concert

CERDDORFA Dinas Powys Orchestra's spring concert takes place on Sunday, March 30 (7.30pm) in the Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys CF64 4AF.

The programme will include Beethoven Overture 'Coriolan'; Beethoven Piano Concerto No 3 (soloist Tomas Klement from the Czech Republic), and Schubert Symphony No 3. Tickets available at the door or from Dinas Powys Post Office, 3 Station Road, Dinas Powys and Penarth Book Shop, Windsor Road, Penarth. Cost: £6 (£3 age 12 and under). Tel: 029 20706288; www.cdpo.org.uk.

Valeways walks

THIS Saturday (March 29) at 2pm, 'Lan a Lawr – i'r Downs' starting at Cowbridge Town Hall, maes parcio/car park.

On Sunday, March 30, 'Start of Spring', at St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

Weatherman Derek walks through Wales

VALE-based weatherman Derek Brockway, star of the popular Weatherman Walking TV series, is releasing a new book called *Great Welsh Walks* this week.

The weatherman and co-author Martin Aaron present 18 of their favourite walks from all over Wales, from the steep hills and mountains of Snowdonia to the coastal paths of Pembrokeshire and Anglesey; from busy Cardiff Bay to zig-zagging along the Offa's Dyke Path.

Each walk comes with an introduction by Derek, an OS-based map, grid references, detailed directions and pictures of significant landmarks.

"Being a BBC weatherman is my dream job," reveals Derek.

"Although work has taken me around the UK and abroad, Wales will always be home and, in my opinion, there's no better place to live.

"We're so lucky to have so much variety packed into one small country – Wales is made for walking, and whatever the weather, there's always something new to be discovered.

"Although the 18 walks in this book only scratches the surface, it gives a good taste of what our country has to offer."

Derek Brockway is signing copies in The Delicatessen, Pontyclun this Saturday, March 29 between 10.30am and 12pm; and Pyle Garden Centre, 2pm to 3.30pm.

Prize draw winner read about it in The GEM!

PICTURED (left to right): Paula Morris (Cardiff Airport), Jodie Wellington, Helen Tustin (Regal Travel), Caroline Page (Red Sea Holidays) and Jeanette Price (winner).

THE Cardiff Airport Holiday Market, with Regal Travel, made dreams come true for one Llantwit Major resident, who won an all-inclusive five star trip to Egypt, after reading about the event in The GEM.

Last month's Holiday Market saw more than 800 people visit Cardiff Airport to find out about all the destinations that can be reached from there, and take advantage of the chance to enter the free prize draw to win a trip to Siva Sharm Resort and Spa with Red Sea Holidays.

Jeanette Price was thrilled when she received the call from Regal Travel to say she was the winner. She said: "I was so pleased and surprised to win the competition. I've been to Sharm El Sheikh once before and it was very beautiful so I can't wait to go back. I'm taking my husband with me – I don't think he'd be very happy if I didn't!

"I thoroughly enjoyed the Holiday Market, which I'd read about in The GEM. It was fantastic to be able to speak to representatives from each of the tour operators in person and we took plenty of brochures away with us.

"I go on holiday once or twice a year and always fly from Cardiff because it's so convenient."

Helen Tustin, general manager at Regal Travel, said: "After two successful years of Holiday Markets in Bridgend, we thought it was time to share our expertise with a wider audience, this time with the support of Cardiff Airport, a wide variety operators and airlines.

"It was great to get the prize from Red Sea Holidays which added to the excitement on the day and we hope Mrs Price has a wonderful holiday with her husband."

The Chief Executive of Cardiff Airport, Jon Horne, said: "February proved to be the perfect time to hold our first Holiday Market; it was a fantastic opportunity to show travellers just how many wonderful places they can go from Cardiff.

"We were very pleased to work with Regal Travel and provide the south Wales community with plenty of inspiration for their next getaway.

"It was great to hear Mrs Price is a regular traveller through Cardiff because she, like so many fellow Welsh people, finds it so convenient to fly from her local airport. We're delighted she'll be flying from Cardiff for her prize with Red Sea Holidays and look forward to welcoming her and her husband in November."

TOOLBOX SURPRISE FOR COLLEGE APPRENTICES!

ABOVE: The apprentices were delighted to receive a free set of tools from their day release trainer.

OVER 130 apprentice electricians with leading national training provider JTL were surprised last week to be presented with a gift during their weekly day release attendance at Cardiff and Vale College.

They each received a free set of tools valued at more than £150, selected by the company to help young electricians, through a partnership with Monument Tools.

They were handed out by JTL's Martin Laye, and training officers Phil Rees and Simeon Thomas, helped by the head of department at Cardiff and Vale College, Gary Collins and tutor Jon Bowen.

The apprentices work with their employer for four days a week and spend a day a week at Cardiff and Vale College to build on their practical knowledge and to be taught theory.

MP welcomes welfare cap

VALE Conservative MP, Alun Cairns, this week welcomed news that 43 households in the Vale have had their benefits capped, as part of a UK Government clampdown on excessive benefits.

He said: "Obviously, capping people's benefits is always going to be an emotive subject, but it doesn't make sense when people can claim more on benefits than the average working family.

"It is not fair to claimants or to the taxpayer to be trapped on benefits. Reform was needed and the benefit cap is a key plank of the changes that were needed.

"Capping welfare is part of the Conservatives' long-term economic plan to build an economy that delivers for people who work hard and play by the rules.

"The benefit cap is ending the something for nothing culture, which means a stronger community where everyone contributes," he added.

Why mum Lisa is running marathon for the CF charity

LISA CLOSE from Broadlands, Bridgend, is running the London Marathon on Sunday, April 13, to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis research.

Lisa Close with Neil Thomas of Thomas Kitchens & Bathrooms, Bridgend, her main sponsors for the run.

She explained: "My running days started when I was six years old, dressed in a market-brought shell suit and pump up trainers.

"Just to prove to my dad I could, I ran my first fun run at a local village. I followed my mum and older sister around the course, and then blew them out on the home stretch – which is hiw I've run ever since.

"I've always run on and off over the years. I've never run any great distances and I've never run for any charities. When I did the Cardiff Half Marathon last year, I was inspired by all those running for a cause, so I started questioning why I wasn't.

"I've always wanted to run the London Marathon and to find a charity was easy – Cystic Fibrosis (CF).

"When I was expecting my first baby, at the 20-week scan they thought he might have CF, a genetic condition in which the lungs and digestive system become clogged with thick mucus.

"There is no cure, and those with CF have a lower than average life expectancy. We were devastated and would not be able to find out if he had the condition until he was six weeks old.

"We had so much support through that time. We were assigned a counsellor and I had question after question. The charity was fantastic and had so much patience.

"Ethan was born and six weeks later he was tested and it was confirmed he did not have CF, although, like his dad Matthew, he does carry the gene. We were lucky that in order for the gene to mutate, I also needed to be a carrier – they hadn't been able to find that gene in me.

"Running 26 miles will physically be the hardest thing I have ever done, but knowing that I am giving back and helping those who weren't as lucky as Ethan will keep me putting one foot in front of the other.

"All charities are worthwhile. Some have more meaning to you than others. Please support me on my journey; we never know when we may need the help of others."

Lisa is holding a charity night to help raise money for Cystic Fibrosis at Tondu Cricket Club on Friday, April 4. Tickets are still available, contact Matt on 07701 080013. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation, contact www.virginmoneygiving.com/LisaClose1.

Have You Heard There Is A New Sheep In Town!

How Ewe Too Can Sell Your House in Weeks and Benefit from our Outrageous Launch Offer...

EweMove.com Sales and Lettings

~~£2495~~

£795 (+VAT) Selling Fee

£795 Selling Fee

Start today by getting your FREE no obligation property appraisal

CALL Karen now 01446 349349

www.ewemove.com/valeofglamorgan

We're open 24/7!

Hurry! Limited to the first 12 instructions received before 31st March 2014

The Aberthin tractor boys plough the fields and demonstrate how to keep a straight line

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

THERE'S a renewed ineterest in traditional rural pursuits such as ploughing and hedging, with regular competitions being held.

Last weekend, the Tractor Boys of Aberthin held a training day in Llanharan, so that anyone thinking of entering a competition could refine their technique!

Follow The GEM on Twitter - find us @*gem_news*

Brighter Moves ESTATE AGENTS

Moving with the times...

SELLING FEES OF JUST **0.85%** (subject to minimum fee of £995.00)
No Sale, No Fees • Tenant Finding Service Available

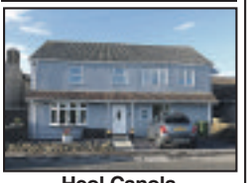
OGMORE VALE

Spion Kop
CF32 7BT £249,995
FREEHOLD, FOUR BEDROOMS, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, OPEN VIEWS ACROSS THE VALLEY

LLANTWIT FADRE

Cadwal Court
CF38 2FA £237,950
FOUR BEDROOMS, KITCHEN/DINER, GARAGE, EN-SUITE, PVCu DOUBLE GLAZED, UTILITY ROOM

BRYNCETHIN



Heol Canola
CF32 9TS £199,995
FREEHOLD, SIX BEDROOMS, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, EPC -D

LLANTWIT MAJOR

Illtyd Avenue
CF61 1TH £167,950
FOUR BEDROOMS, FREEHOLD, UPVC, DOUBLE GLAZING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, PRIVATE PARKING, EPC -D, GENEROUS REAR GARDEN

PONTYCLUN

Cottesmore Way, Cross Inn CF72 8BG £159,000
THREE BEDROOMS, SEMI DETACHED, GARAGE, DOUBLE GLAZED, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN KITCHEN

TONDU

Park Terrace
CF32 9HE £124,995
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS WOOD SASH WINDOWS, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, NO ON GOING CHAIN, EPC - D

BRIDGEND

Fron Heulog
CF31 4RP £109,995
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS, GENEROUS REAR GARDEN, PRIVATE PARKING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, EPC-E

BRIDGEND

Mill Lane
CF31 4JD £105,500
FREEHOLD, DETACHED COTTAGE, TWO BEDROOMS, GARDEN AREA, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, EPC-D

TONDU

Ynysteg
CF32 9EU £89,995
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOM SEMI, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, EPC RATING -C, NO ON GOING CHAIN

OGMORE VALE

Dunraven Place
CF32 7ET £82,500
FREEHOLD, TWO BEDROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, REAR GARDEN AND VIEWS

SARN

Park Place CF32 9UA
Reduced To £69,950
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS, NEED OF MODERNISING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING

BLACKMILL

Glynllan
CF35 6EF £39,995
THREE BEDROOM, FIRST FLOOR FLAT, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, OIL CENTRAL HEATING VACANT POSSESSION

Free Valuation, For Sale Boards, Floor Plans, Accompanied Viewings and Internet Advertising
Independent agents working in Bridgend, The Vale, Pencoed and Porthcawl

Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website NAEA

119a, Wyndham House, Wyndham Street, Bridgend CF31 1EF.
Tel: 0800 043 1995 • 01656 655936
www.brightermoveswales.co.uk • E-Mail: enquiries@brightermoveswales.co.uk

1 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AA
Sales: 01446 736888
Lettings: 01446 734668
www.homesonview.co.uk
www.ninaestateagents.co.uk

fishOhomes Zoopla.co.uk rightmove

nina estate agents

website:
www.ninaestateagents.co.uk
email:
enquiries@ninaestateagents.co.uk

FindaProperty.com propertyfinder.com OFT Approved code NAEA

NEW SSTC in 24 HOURS
KATHLEEN STREET, BARRY
Mid terraced traditional, two double bedrooms & study/cot room, 1st floor bathroom, through living room, UPVC double glazing, no chain.
£99,950

NEW
HAWTHORN ROAD, BARRY
Spacious detached, three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen & utility room, enclosed rear garden, garage/driveway, no chain.
£214,950

NEW SSTC in 24 HOURS
SALISBURY ROAD, BARRY
Investment opportunity, mid terraced traditional, two reception rooms, original features, UPVC DG-GCH via combi, garage, no chain.
£124,950

NEW SSTC
HEOL ERYR MOR, BARRY
Modern end of terraced, two bedrooms, ensuite to master, living room, kitchen/breakfast, conservatory, enclosed rear garden, garage/driveway. EPC-C.
£143,000

NEW
PURDEY CLOSE, BARRY
End of link modern, living room, open plan kitchen/diner, conservatory, three bedrooms, family bathroom, side access, designated parking. EPC-C.
£133,950

NEW SSTC in 24 HOURS
THE GROVE, BARRY
Mid terraced, Edwardian traditional, original features, two reception rooms, three bedrooms, family bathroom, shower room, enclosed garden. ER-E.
£239,950

NEW SSTC
TRINITY STREET, BARRY
2014 replacement carpets and UPVC double glazing, three bedrooms, mid terraced traditional, wc cloakroom, living room, fitted kitchen. EPC-D.
£134,950

NEW SSTC
ST PAULS AVENUE, BARRY
Three bedrooms, traditional semi detached, modernised throughout, two reception rooms, kitchen, utility, wc, original features, rear garden. EPC-C.
£139,950

NEW
LISCUM WAY, BARRY
Modern semi detached, wc cloakroom, living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, enclosed garden, parking, garage. EPC-D.
£204,950

NEW SSTC
LIDMORE ROAD, BARRY
In need of modernisation, three bedrooms, semi detached, living room, dining room, kitchen - wc, driveway, garage, garden, no chain.
£179,950

NEW SSTC
BROOKFIELD AVENUE, BARRY
Show home presented, two bedrooms, living room, open plan kitchen/sun lounge. UPVC DG - GCH via combi, enclosed garden, no chain.
£133,000

NEW SSTC in 24 HOURS
JENNER ROAD, BARRY
Show home presented, two bedroomed stunning apartment, living room, kitchen opening to breakfast room, shower room, views over Channel.
£99,950

NEW
MURLANDE WAY, RHOOSE
Semi detached corner positioned, kitchen, living room with spiral stairs, two double bedrooms, enclosed rear garden, garage/driveway, no chain.
£124,950

NEW PRICE
THE PASTURES, BARRY
Modern mid link, living room, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, family bathroom, low maintenance garden, driveway/parking to front.
£109,950

NEW PRICE
OLD MILL ROAD, BARRY
Three bedrooms, elevated semi detached, living /dining room, fitted kitchen, minutes walk to train station, UPVC DG-GCH via combi.
£134,950

THE MEWS, BARRY
Modern end of terraced, driveway to front, living room, kitchen, GCH via combi boiler, town centre location, no chain. EPC-C.
£94,950

PALMER STREET, BARRY
Extended mid terrace, through living room, sitting room, extended fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, cot room/study, family bathroom, GCH via combi.
£108,950

BURNS CRESCENT, BARRY
Three bedrooms, semi detached, kitchen/diner, living room, bathroom to Ground floor, separate wc to 1st floor, enclosed rear garden. EPC-D.
£94,950

ST BRIDES WAY, BARRY
Two bedrooms, modern semi detached, living room, conservatory, level laid to lawn garden, longer than average, driveway. EPC-D.
£99,950

NEW PRICE
ROMILLY ROAD, BARRY
Mid terraced traditional, living/dining, kitchen-utility area, sitting room, stairs to attic/hobby area, velux window, to the rear outbuilding, no chain. EPC-E.
£215,000

OPEN TO OFFERS
DYFAN ROAD, BARRY
Three bedrooms, semi detached, could easily extend (subject to usual planning), two reception rooms, front, side & rear gardens.
£119,950

OPEN TO OFFERS
DUNRAVEN STREET, BARRY
Corner positioned, traditional dwelling, living room, fitted kitchen, dining room wih vaulted ceilings, two bedrooms & family bathroom, rear garden.
£132,500

NEW
MONTGOMERY ROAD, BARRY
Semi detached, immaculate condition, three bedrooms, far reaching sea views, living room, wc/study/utility, kitchen/diner, driveway, refurbished.
£169,500

SSTC
COLCOT ROAD, BARRY
Traditional bay fronted detached dwelling, three bedrooms, two reception rooms, sun lounge, kitchen, lobby, wc cloak, garden, garage/ample parking.
£250,000

ALL OF THE PROPERTIES BELOW HAVE AGREED SALES RECENTLY
Call us on 01446 736888 if you want your property sold

SSTC
RECTORY ROAD, BARRY
Ground floor apartment, one double bedroom, living room, fitted kitchen, shower room, GCH, UPVC D/G, ample parking, no chain.
£77,500

SSTC
CATALINA HOUSE, BARRY
1st floor apartment, living room with french doors, wrap around balcony, one bedroom, spacious family bathroom, fitted kitchen.
£84,950

SSTC
BELL STREET, BARRY
Mid terraced traditional, through living room, modern fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, family bathroom, decked sun terrace, laid to lawn.
£109,950

SSTC
BRAMBLE AVENUE, BARRY
Two bedroomed, semi detached, ensuite shower to master, living room, kitchen/diner, driveway/ample parking, garden backing onto open space.
£124,950

SSTC
HYWEL CRESCENT, BARRY
Four bedroomed semi detached, luxury wc cloak/shower room, modern fitted kitchen/breakfast, living room/dining room, driveway.
£134,950

SSTC
WYE CLOSE, BARRY
Detached bungalow, two bedrooms, living room, conservatory, family bathroom, longer than average driveway, detached garage, no chain.
£174,950

SSTC
PONTYPRIDD ROAD, BARRY
Three bedroomed, traditional semi, approx 200ft rear garden, extended to ground floor, lounge, open plan dining room/sitting room.
£189,950

SSTC
SOMERSET ROAD, BARRY
Edwardian semi detached, three reception rooms, replacement kitchen/breakfast, four bedrooms & additional attic/hobby area, sea views.
£224,950

SSTC
MAES GLAS, BARRY
Living room, dining room, snug (converted garage), extended breakfast/kitchen, wc cloak, utility room, four bedrooms, enclosed rear garden.
£249,950

SSTC
ST BRANNOCKS CLOSE, BARRY
Detached dwelling, four bedrooms, living room/dining room, open plan kitchen, wc cloakroom, sitting room with stairs rising to 5th bedroom.
£252,000

SSTC
PORTH Y CASTELL, BARRY
Elevated semi detached, sea views, two reception rooms, kitchen, shower room, four bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway/garage.
£269,950

SSTC
ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY
Edwardian semi, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility, wc, balcony overlooking park, garage/coach house, lane access.
£329,000

NINA CHIVERS NAEA

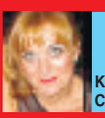
ROB CHIVERS

ROB PARKER

PAULINE BROWN

DIANE HUDSON

ADAM GOVIER

LINDA DEACON

KIRSTY CARR

ANNA COLEMAN

NEW

Castle Road, Rhoose
3 Bed Mid Link
Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory
Enclosed Garden, Rear Lane Access
£156,000 D67

NEW PRICE

Clos Tawe, Barry
3 Bedrooms
2 Receps and Study/Utility
Landscaped Rear Garden
£200,000 D65

NEW

Cwrt Aethen, Barry
4 Bedrooms
Select Cul-De-Sac (1 of 7)
2 Separate Receptions - Views!
£239,950 D66

Chris Davies

Rhoose 01446 711900
Llantwit Major 01446 792020
Barry 01446 700007
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

Aeron Close, Barry
3 Bedrooms
Good Size, Upvc DG, Part GCH
Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
£107,000 D62

Columbus Close, Barry
2 Double Bedrooms
Very Good Order Throughout
Upvc DG, GCH, Enclosed Garden
£112,500 D62

Cross Street, Barry
3 Bedrooms
Through Lounge/Dining Room
Walking Distance To Rail Station
£112,500 D63

Clos Mancheldowne, Barry
2 Bedrooms
Good Size Rear Garden
No Onward Chain
£124,950 D68

Clos Celyn, Barry
2 Double Bedrooms, 1 En-Suite
Conservatory Extension
2 Car Parking & Walled Rear Garden
£119,950 C72

NEW PRICE

Carn Yr Ebol, Barry
3 Bedrooms
2 Receps & Conservatory
Garage & Drive Opposite
£169,995 D68

42 Llanmead Gardens, Rhoose
PUBLIC NOTICE: We have received an offer of £180,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.
£189,950 C71

Marine Drive, Barry
3 Bedrooms & 3 Receptions
Superb Channel Views
Desirable West End Location
£249,950 D62

Castle Road, Rhoose
Garden Maisonette
2 Double Bedrooms
Ground Floor
Offers in excess of **£90,000** D59

NEW PRICE

Murlande Way, Rhoose
2 Bedrooms
Glorious Channel Views
Ideal First Buy/Adjacent Parking
£115,000 C71

Norseman Close, Rhoose
Semi Detached House
3 Beds, 2 Reception
Garage and Large Garden
£165,000 D66

Porthkerry Road, Rhoose
3 Bed Semi
3 Reception Rooms
Off Road Parking & Garage
£187,000 D56

Lets!

Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry
Furnished, One bed,
Ground Floor Apartment
C75
£475 PCM

Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry
Ground Floor, One Bed
Fully Furnished
C80
£475 PCM

Ash Lane, St Athan
Two Bedrooms, Kitchen Diner
Large Garden
F38
£495 PCM

Flemingston Road, St Athan
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen Diner
Lawn Garden
E54
£495 PCM

Partridge Road, St Athan
Two Bedrooms, Electric Shower,
Large Kitchen Area
D62
£495 PCM

Bullfinch Road, St Athan
Two Bedrooms, Shower, GCH
D59
£495 PCM

Chestnut Avenue, St Athan
Two Bedrooms,
Refurbished Kitchen/Diner
Additional Attic Room
E49
£550 PCM

Heol Ger-Y-Felin, Llantwit Major
Two Double Bedrooms
Fitted Kitchen
Enclosed Garden
D61
£550 PCM

Magpie Road, St Athan
Three Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms
Driveway
D57
£550 PCM

Lime Grove, St Athan
Three Bedroom, Conservatory
Enclosed Rear Garden
D64
£550 PCM

The Wheate Close, Rhoose
Two Bedrooms, Walk in shower
Gardens
C73
£550 PCM

Heol y Fro, Llantwit Major
Two Bedrooms, Kitchen/Diner,
Lovely Rear Garden
£595 PCM

Castle Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major
Three Bedrooms, Kitchen Diner
Off Road Parking
D59
£600 PCM

Picketston Close, St Athan
Three Bedrooms,
Open Plan Living/Kitchen, Garage
D63
£650 PCM

Shakespeare Drive, Llantwit Major
Three Bedrooms, Private Rear Garden
Gas Central Heating
C63
£650 PCM

Broadway, Cowbridge
Semi-Detached, Two Bedrooms
GCH
C69
£650 PCM

Queen Street, Barry
West End Location, Three Bedrooms
Shower
E49
£650 PCM

Harbour Road, Barry
Semi-Detached Victorian Property,
Five Bedrooms, Original Features
E46
£950 PCM

Call Claire today to book
a free rental valuation
01446 791966
lettings@chris-davies.co.uk

To arrange a viewing call:
Rebecca on 01446 791965
Anna on 01446 791967

Cabo Roig, Orihuela Costa, Costa Blanca South

3 bed 2 bath
Penthouse Duplex
Private parking
Communal
swimming pool
500m from the beach
Airport - 20 minutes
£142,950

For further information, contact
Paul on freephone
0800 135 7503
or email
spain@chris-davies.co.uk

WANTED

Paddock 1 or 2 acres, close to Cowbridge, with shelter preferably. Cash buyer circa £20,000.

Call Christopher Davies
on 01446 791963
or email
christopher.davies
@chris-davies.co.uk

Benecrofte, Rhoose
3 Bed
2 Baths
Large Conservatory
£207,000 D59

Murlande Way, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms
2 Reception plus Sun Room
Top of the Range Kitchen
£229,000 D68

Cilgant Y Meillion, Rhoose Point
4 Bedrooms
Beautifully Improved
Pleasant Position
£235,000 D68

Fontygary Road, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms & 3 Receptions
Stunning Channel Views
Large Southerly Rear Garden
£375,000 C70

chris-davies.co.uk

DON'T DO IT YOURSELF

Call a professional From our A-Z list

Aerials & Satellite

ONE VISION
DIGITAL AERIAL & SATELLITE SERVICES INSTALLATIONS

SONOS WiFi Wireless Sound Systems Supplied and Installed

Free Sky TV Dish & Sky Box Installation
Ring for Latest Subscription Package Deals
£40 CASH BACK for any New Sky Customer Taking a Subscription Package
SKY Repairs, adjustments and installations.
✓ Domestic & Commercial
✓ Discounts For Gaps
✓ 24 Hour 7 Days Service
✓ 12 Month Guarantee
✓ RDI Approved Installers
FREE ESTIMATES
SAME DAY SERVICE

Digital TV Aerials Supplied & Installed at competitive prices
CAT V extensions for Broadband and Smart TV
Get HD Picture Quality into every room via CAT V

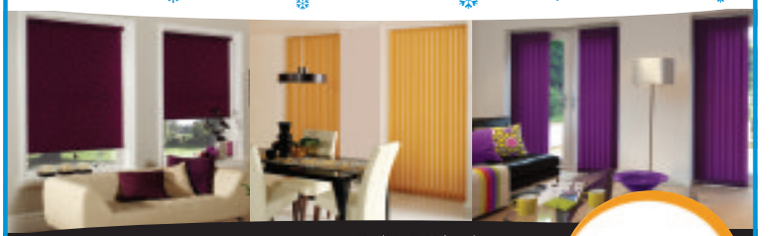
Is Your Aerial Installer....?
Confederation of Aerial Installers Certified? Police Checked? Using Industry Benchmark Aerials, Cables and Accessories?
ONE VISION ARE!
Wall Mounted TV Installation Specialists
visit our website for examples

Call Paul Williams
Cowbridge 01446 439 306 Bridgend 01656 349 281
www.onevisionltd.co.uk

Blinds & Curtains

Solar's Snowball Sale!

Blind 1 10% • Blind 2 20% • Blind 3 30% • Blind 4 40%



SOLAR
North Road, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend CF313TP
Tel: 01656 663800

DAYTONA
Unit 3F, Palmerston Road, Barry
Tel: 01446 740842
www.solarsunshades.co.uk

solar

THE AERIAL MAN (Barry)
TV Aerial and Satellite Specialists
Poor Reception Problems
OAP Discount
Additional TV Points
Digital Aerial Installation
Freesat Installations
Free Home Visits
www.dangroaerials.co.uk
Call today for your FREE quotation
LOCAL FRIENDLY PERSONAL SERVICE • ALL AREAS COVERED
01446 439 125 or 07818 413 451

VALE DIGITAL
DIGITAL AERIAL & SATELLITE SERVICES
SPECIAL OFFER!!!!
DIGITAL AERIAL COMPLETE INSTALLATION FROM £60
EXTRA ROOMS £20 EACH
TV WALL MOUNTING & TV SET UP & TUNE IN SERVICE
ALL TYPES OF AERIAL & SATELLITES REPAIRED OR REPLACED
Tel. TIM on 07974 065096 / 01446 793189 ANYTIME
COMPETITIVE PRICES - FREE ESTIMATES - OAP DISCOUNTS - 7 DAY SERVICE
COVERING ALL AREAS

Aerial & TV Repairs

TELE-ELECTRICAL SERVICING
Specialist repairs in TV, Video, DVD & Audio.
Installations, tuning and set-up service.
Tel: (01656) 654156 or 07792 887835

BLIND SALE!
STARLINE
Awnings & Blinds
Unit 3 & 4, Western Industrial Estate, Caerphilly CF83 1BQ • www.starline-blinds.co.uk
TEL (029) 2086 0631
GENUINE 15% OFF SALE

1st Digital Aerials
SPECIAL OFFER - £60 Complete Installation plus £20 per extra room
Local Digital Aerial Specialist
Digital Aerials Installed & Repaired.
Set Up and Tune In Service.
Problems with:
• Missing Channels • Freezing • Breaking Up
Call Adrian on 07999 331 160
or Barry 01446 743267
www.1st-digital.co.uk

Building Services

KEALOW CONSTRUCTION
Serving the Vale for over 20 years
All aspects of Property Maintenance
• Extensions • Carpentry • Brickwork • Plumbing • Plastering
01446 421437 • M 07847 507008
kealowconstruction@yahoo.co.uk
www.kealowconstruction.co.uk

R&T
TOOL & PLANT HIRE
SALES & SERVICE
BOTTLED GAS
Unit 20, Vale Business Park Llandow CF71 7PF
Tel. 01446 771999
www.randt.co.uk

3 GOOD REASONS
1 FREE Fitting
2 FREE Quotation
3 5 Year Guarantee
BLINDS & CURTAINS
3 Vertical Blinds from £99
Freephone: 0500 295192
Made in Wales.....Proud to be Welsh
Mirage Blinds
One offer per Household - Selected Ranges Maximum 60"x60"

Building Services

GRABit
• Building Contractors
• Waste Disposal
• Grab Hire
• Plant Hire
• Council Approved Contractors
01446 700535
GROUNDWORK CONTRACTORS LTD

BARRY & VALE DAMP & TIMBER TREATMENT
SOLVING ALL YOUR DAMP PROBLEMS
01446 420784
07970 642537
www.barryandvaledampproofing.co.uk

Cleaning Services

AquaFORCE
PATIO, DRIVEWAY & GUTTER CLEANING
Call Tony
07828 057381

DRIVEWAY CLEANING
Before After
HALF PRICE
from only £1.95p sq metre
07767 578727
www.attractivedriveways.co.uk

CCMS (Wales) Ltd
GUTTER CLEANING & FASCIA WASH
01446 741460
07830 480569

D.P. BUILDING SERVICES
• Kitchens • Bathrooms
• Extensions • Plastering
• Carpentry • Joinery
• Roofing • Brickwork
• Conservatories
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Tel: 01446 711968
07831 655429

MASONWISE BUILDERS
01446 742928
Established since 1979
• Extensions
• Disabled Grant Work
• Roofing & Repairs
• Conservatories
• Patio & Drives
No Job Too Small
Free Estimates
44 Newlands Street, Barry

Glamorgan Property Maintenance
General Property Maintenance & Building Work
"We do it all"
01446 711023
or 07950 004049
info@gpmaintenance.co.uk

The GEM

INSURANCE CLAIM?
Leaking Pipe? Fire Damage? Flood Damage? Impact Damage? Dispute with your insurer?
All our services are free to you.
Are your insurers insisting on using their builders? We will act on your behalf - we will deal with your insurer.
CALL OUR TEAM NOW FOR A CHAT
Tangible Building Solutions Ltd
0800 328 4188 or 02921 678522
or visit our website: tangiblebuilding.co.uk

STANTON CONSTRUCTION
All building work covered
• Roofing/Repairs
• Rendering
• Driveways
• Guttering
01446 489368

Carpentry Services

CANTERBURY CARPENTRY
Carpentry and Building Contractors
All enquiries welcome
07960 005137

GRIFFITHS CARPENTRY
All aspects of Carpentry work
Professional, friendly, caring service
• Kitchen Installations • Flooring • Doors
• Fencing • Decking • Bespoke Wardrobes
Contact Rhys on 01446 790384 / 07803 696451
www.rgriffithscarpentry.com

Call 01446 774484 to advertise with The GEM & reach 43,000 homes from Penarth to Porthcawl

DON'T DO IT YOURSELF

Call a professional From our A-Z list

Carpet Services

VALE CARPETS
The Carpet Shop that comes to you
100's of Carpet & Vinyl samples
Established since 1980
Also Carpet, Upholstery Cleaning
Tel: Paul Wright
01446 751152
07811 092477

STEVE SEGUST FLOORING
Carpet Fitting, Refitting & Repair Service Available
~ Est 1987 ~
Choose from the comfort of your own home.
Free quotations, fitting, underlay and gripper.
All types of flooring available with a huge range of samples to choose from.
Best prices around.
Call any time...
01656 768120
or 07774 807111

The Carpet & Vinyl Service
Real prices • Real value • Real service
We take pride in our work & offer the best prices
Call Gordon on 07990 582686
www.thecarpetservice.net

Computer Services

HD Computer Solutions
- All problems fixed
- Fast, reliable, on-site service
- Friendly advice freely given
- No fix, no fee
- Free callout

Tel 01446 773158
07779 713604 anytime

AB COMPUTER SERVICES
TUITION - BROADBAND
WIRELESS NETWORKS
REPAIRS & INSTALLATION
For home or office
Tel: 07811 422 946
27 High St, Cowbridge
www.cowbridge-it.co.uk

Dog Grooming

Vale Dog Grooming
Cowbridge, CF71 7UL
Full Professional Service
Pick up & drop off available
01446 760 236
07854 30 10 20

Disposal Service

STEVE FLOYD Ltd
*Septic Tank *
*Cesspit Emptying *
*Treatment Plants *
Groundworker
and tarmac
07970 809096
01656 722665
floyds@homecall.co.uk

Garage Door Services

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES
The garage door specialists
All types of doors supplied, fitted & repaired
Over 15 years experience.
Same day repairs.
07783 703366
01446 743181
www.gdsdoors.co.uk

Garden Services

GARDENING OFFER
1st 2hrs only £15
Minimum 4 hours call out
Pruning, Hedges, Lawns, Clearance, Gutters, Jet Washing, Landscaping
Est 2002 Tel: 07866 544 951

Electrical Services

Lilford Electrical
Design, installation and testing for homes and businesses
ELECSA Part P Approved Contractor
www.elecsa.co.uk
Contact Rob:
01446 796905
07747 858514
rclilford@gmail.com
Fast • Polite • Professional

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS
Washing Machines, Cookers, Fridge/Freezers, Tumble Dryers, Ovens, Hobs, Hoods. Built-in or Freestanding Appliances.
APPLIANCE CENTRE
01446 700206/730884

KM Electrical
FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS
07866 505571
01446 774713
NICEIC Approved Contractor
www.kmelectricaluk.co.uk

REPAIRS
Washing Machines Electric Cookers, Tumble Driers, etc
Repaired in your own home
Freephone 0800 2984518
Barry 744117

LK Electrical
All types of Electrical work undertaken.
Testing, Inspection & Certification
ELECSA
07891 965150
01446 700182

Dave Reffell
Electrical Services
Domestic Installer Scheme
Free Quotations
01446 751743
07743 500149
dmreffell@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01656 858997
Mob: 07970 764590
NICEIC Domestic Installer
Davem
ELECTRICIAN
All electrical work undertaken
Testing & Inspection

Double Glazing

MG WINDOWS
Upvc Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Porches, Fascias, Soffits, Gutters, Sealed Units, All Maintenance. 25yrs exp.
Call Martyn on:
01446 796795
07712 631772
martyn.george73@hotmail.co.uk

STEVE MOLONEY
Double glazing repairs. Hinges, handles, misted up sealed units, complete repair service available.
Established 1979.
01656 783594
or
07877 558525

All Double Glazing Repairs & Maintenance
puc-V, Aluminium & Timber Windows
- Misted Units inc. Bevels & Stains
- Broken Handles/Hinges
- Door Locks Repaired & Upgraded
- Replacement Door Panels
- New Rubber Seals
- Fully Qualified Locksmith

Bridgend Windows Maintenance
PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND INSURANCE QUOTATIONS
01656 788403
Mobile: 07515 860113
33 Philadelphia Road, Porthcawl CF36 3DP
www.bridgendwindows.com

WELSH WINDOW SYSTEMS
Est. 1987
Repairs to all UPVC & aluminium windows & doors
01446 749821
07877 836798

The GEM
01446
774484

WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR SERVICE
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF uPVC AND ALUMINIUM WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR
Do you have any of the following problems...?
Misted-up Double Glazing • Broken Hinges
Seized Patio Door Rollers • Faulty door Locks
Seized Handles • Draughts • Broken Letter Box • Leaks, etc
If so phone for a free estimate and advice
FREEPHONE COWBRIDGE 0800 169 5171
We offer a competitive and friendly service to the Vale and surrounding area
TRY US FOR NEW UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS
8 am - 8 pm (7 days)
Window Tec UK
• Window and Door Repair •

Garden Services

Complete Garden Services
FENCING • DECKING • TREES FELLED, HEDGES AND LAWNS • WALLS, PATHS AND PATIOS
Telephone: 01446 419428
or 07765 611753

NP GARDEN & LANDSCAPING SERVICES
Multi Award winning Landscapers & Driveway Installers
*Driveways *Patios *Decking *Fencing *Walling
*Turfing & artificial grass *Water features & ponds
www.npgls.co.uk
info@gardenandlandscapeservices.co.uk
01446 710736 / 07790166480

LUMBERJACKS
TREE & GARDEN SERVICES
✱ All tree work undertaken
✱ Lawns & bushes
WE WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE QUOTE
✱ Fencing & gravel patches
✱ All waste & by-products removed for free
✱ All jobs considered
Free Estimate, Fully Insured, 8am to 8pm, 7 Days a Week
www.lumber-jacks.co.uk
01446 728137 or 07785 943145

The Green Factor Ltd
Free estimates, fully insured.
• Landscaping • Fencing
• Decking • Hedge Cutting
• Garden Clearance
• Patios and Paving
Call Paul on 01446 736525 or 07815 319427
WE ARE QUALIFIED, RELIABLE AND LOCAL!

RIVERLEA Horticulture
WE SELL THE BEST AND SERVICE THE REST
LAWN MOWERS - RIDE-ONS - CHAINSAWS - STRIMMERS
HEDGECUTTERS AND GARDEN ACCESSORIES
Husqvarna STIHL VIKING and now Westwood
Most makes serviced and repaired
Collection service available
Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge CF71 7PF
Tel: 01446 775602

NDP GARDEN and PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
Grass Cutting, Weeding
Shrubs & Hedges Trimmed,
Tree Felling,
Fencing, Turfing.
Gutters & Fascias Cleaned
Drives, Patios, Roofs, etc.
Power Washed.
- *Free Estimates*
- *Reliable Family Team*

01446 773935
or 07773 992704

Gardening

BRIDGE VALE TREE SERVICES
Specialists in Large/Dangerous Trees
FELLING, PRUNING, CROWN REDUCTION, THINNING OUT AND TOTAL DISMANTLING
HIGHLY QUALIFIED/INSURED
COMMERCIAL or DOMESTIC
SITE CLEARANCE
- FREE QUOTES -
Tel: 01446 713857
***or* 07921 902729**

J.N. and Son Gardening Services
- Decking
- Fencing
- Treefelling
- Loose Decorative Gravel
- Hedge Cutting
- Lawns Laid & Cut
- Jet Washing

Plus much more:
01446 402765 or 07540117474
www.ratedpeople.com/profile/Jn-and-son-gardening

Arborwood Tree Care
Tree pruning • Crown lifting
Tree felling • Dangerous tree work
Pollarding • Dead wooding • Hedge cutting
Tree dismantling • Root pruning
Ground clearance
Call us for a friendly, free quote. Fully insured.
Tel 07910 417471 or 01446 792262

BENTON
Garden Machinery Specialists
Servicing and Spares on all makes and models
Winter Services from £30
Strimmers | Hedgecutters | Chainsaws | Log Splitters
Mowers and Ride-ons
AL-KO Kawasaki
Benton Agricultural Services Ltd
The Workshop, Llandow, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7PF
T: 01446 792 786 W: www.bentonagri.com

Decorating Services

STADRE PAINTING & DECORATING
- Interior/Exterior
- Clean, Friendly
- Professional
- No job too small

07791 752532
grussell@live.co.uk

TRUE COLOURS
Painter & Decorator
Interior & Exterior
City & Guilds Certified
25 years experience
Wallpaper specialist
Free Estimates
Quality Guaranteed
07873 326 892
01446 402 708

Bryan Hicks
Painting & Decorating Specialist
Est 1981
Interior - Exterior
01446 776203
07544 169855

Handyman

K&A Handyman
"A family run business"
All aspects of general maintenance, carpentry, painting, decorating, carpet cleaning, gardening, garden & household rubbish clearance.
No task to big or small, just ask!
Contact: 07970 711879 or 01446 720840

The GEM call
01446 774484

DON'T DO IT YOURSELF

Call a professional From our A-Z list

Gas Services

35 years established company
C.S.Boxall Ltd.
INSTALLATION, SERVICE & BREAKDOWNS
for all Gas, Oil, Solid Fuel, LPG
Static Homes, Caravans, Etc
Gas, Landlord Safety Checks
7 year warranty on Worcester Boilers
plus Electrical Services
by fully qualified indentured Service Engineers
198501
Call 01446 772444

Gas Services
Combination Boiler & LPG Specialist
Competitive & Reliable
01446 796263
07814 394378

Kitchen Services

SEABREEZE KITCHENS
(Over 25 years experience)
• DESIGN
• SUPPLY
• INSTALL
For your complete KITCHEN RENOVATION
We deliver the complete package! Call Rowley on 07463 174736 or 01446 794458
rdhiscocks@gmail.com

School of Motoring

LANEWISE DRIVING SCHOOL
First 3 hours from £39 for total beginners
or first 10 hours from £130
01446 719555
07798 501267

Cats Eyes
Driving School Ltd
• 10 lessons from £150
• Under 17s lessons from £23
• Gift Vouchers available
0800 0280 406
www.catseyesdrivingschool.co.uk

Removal Services

U Direct I Collect Services
Light removals - odd jobs
Any Place - Any Time
Prices start from £10
07944 743932

MAN WITH A VAN
Low hourly rate, no job too small, fully insured.
01656 861120
07789 075104

Plumbing Services

JW Bathrooms
• Plumbing • Tiling
• Plastering • Wet Rooms
Free estimates
No job too small
01446 400225
07866 470754

M MARTYN
PLUMBING SERVICES
For all your plumbing needs. No job too small
01446 678671
07526 125982

Call 01446 774484 to advertise with The GEM

Tutor

TUITION
Qualified & experienced teacher offering tuition of English, French and Spanish to both children and adults (beginners up to A-Level).
Tel: 01446 420035 or 07814 257641

Solar Cleaning

Vale Satellite and Solar Maintenance Service
Solar Panels Cleaned
Bookings now being taken in advance
Don't lose up to £420 a year with dirty panels. Panels recommended to be cleaned twice a year for efficiency.
Professional pure water fed streak free system used.
Conservatories and gutters also cleaned.
Please visit our site for more info: www.valesas.co.uk
Tel or Text 07546318460 •

Tling/Wetrooms

Bonny Tiler
Wall & Floor Tiling Specialists
Full Bathroom and Wetroom installation
Underfloor heating
www.bonnytiler.co.uk

Professional, reliable and friendly service
01446 796582
07854 168459

Plumbing Services

JOHN SARTAIN
Plumbing & Tiling
01446 794266

All aspects of Plumbing
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Competitive & Reliable
01446 796263
07814 394378

Lewis & Lewis
Cowbridge Plumbing & Heating Services
All oil & gas work undertaken
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
Tel: 07966 265912
Mob: 07846 255457
197228

Stairlift Services

Reconditioned Stairlifts £695
Repairs and removals undertaken.
01446 711739
07779 544439

Upholstery Service

Susan Viant Re-upholstery
All aspects of re-upholstery underaken.
Call
01656 724005 (day)
01656 720722 (evenings)

DC Plumbing
• NO call out charge
• Flexible hours
• No job too small
Call Dave on:
Tel: 01446 413971
Mobile: 0779 263 9939

PAUL MARSHMAN
DOMESTIC PLUMBING SERVICE
Repairs • Installation
Service • Tiling
07876 506982
01446 740176
53440

Roofing Services

01446 404838
Silvey Roofing
• New Roofs / Repairs
• UPVC Guttering & Fascias
FREE ESTIMATES
www.silveyroofing.co.uk

Wood for Sale

FIREWOOD
Seasoned & Kiln Dried
Call 01446 771567 for bulk winter deals
Buy 10 handy bags at £5.50 each get 1 free!
Topstak, Unit 42, Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge, CF71 7PP
www.topstak.co.uk
Topstak

Wanted

MRC TRADING
• MoT failures
• Insurance write offs
• Accident damaged
• Up to £5000 paid
• Anything considered, give us a call
• Registered with Environment Agency & Council
WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE CARS & VANS
• Fast, friendly service
• Free Collection
01446 500229 or 07531 782162
RECOVERY & TRANSPORT SERVICE AVAILABLE

GM Plumbing & Heating
01446 735 681 or 07815 097 994 24hrs
Combination Boiler Specialist
Annual Boiler Service only £40
For all your plumbing and heating requirements
All Work Guaranteed. Fully Insured.
Fast, Friendly Service.
301616

01656 720551
07973 488806
Roofing specialists
S. MIDDLETON & SON
We cover all aspects of roofing including Firestone EPDM Flat Roofing Rubber Systems
www.middletonroofing.co.uk

J P EDWARDS
PLUMBING & HEATING
Bathroom Suites • Combi Boilers
Tiling • Servicing • Breakdowns
Taps & Washers • Radiators
No. 526644
01446 790127 07719 605526
FREE QUOTES NO CALL OUT CHARGE

ROOFTEC
ROOFING SERVICE
New slate/ tile/flat roofs.
Also fibreglass flat roofs.
All aspects of uPVC guttering, fascias, downpipes, etc.
Chimney/ valley repairs.
House maintainance work carried out.
No job too small.
Guaranteed competitive rates.
Tel. (01656) 722593
Mobile: 07969 248688.
Free estimates
24 hour emergency call out.

Plastering

GUY FORD
Quality Plastering Service
No job too small
FREE QUOTES
07812093098

Wanted

SBS SALVAGE LTD

Barry's newest car dismantling facility registered with the environment agency, DVLA & Vale of Glamorgan Council
No job too big or too small
Immediate payment of up to £10,000
MOT failures / Untaxed or scrapped vehicle.
Best prices paid for copper / Lead, Aluminium / Stainless steel, Computer boards / Electric cable and catalytic converters
Free of Charge:
• Light demolition
• Factory/Farm Clearances
• All grades of metal taken
• Ferrous or non-ferrous
• Household appliances
• Car batteries
CALL US TODAY www.sbssalvageltd.co.uk Monday to Sunday
01446 421034 • 07772 054534 • 07410 549526

SUTTONS Auto Salvage
TOP PRICES paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles.
Also body shells and scrap metals collected.
No wheels, no problem.
02920 597887
07971 648596

S.M.Vaughan
HEATING & PLUMBING - DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
• Boilers • Pipework • Radiators
• Gas Safety Certificates
• Fires Servicing • LPG Specialists
• Static Homes/Caravans/Boats
230141
01446 734733 • Mob 07976 790096
Unit 11, Ty Verlon Ind. Estate, Barry

Situations Vacant

Optical Assistant / Receptionist

Part time position available, based in Llantwit Major. Applicants will ideally be personable, have good IT skills and able to work efficiently as part of a team.

Experience preferred although training will be provided.

Please email CV's to nina@ninadaviesopticians.co.uk

Springfield Soft Fruit Ltd

is seeking to recruit **Seasonal Production Horticulture Workers** for our Welsh site at **Springfield Nursery, Llandow**

We will provide you with a seasonal 'zero hour' contract role as a worker in our strawberry production facility. Training in all tasks that we request you to carry out, these may include but not be limited to: strawberry picking, plant maintenance & general maintenance.

The work is manual and physically demanding, but mostly indoor in a large glasshouse, also in the early morning, often from sunrise.

We offer £6.31 per hour basic for up to 40 hours per week, an attractive, picking target-related, bonus scheme and the opportunity of an early start and early finish depending on seasonal variations. Please apply at www.sagroup.co.uk and click on 'seasonal work'. Closing date is March 31st, 2014.

Highly respected charity requires

CARE WORKERS

to support older people in the Penarth area, particularly evenings & weekends.

A car, driving licence and CRB checks are necessary for the job. Full training provided, plus favourable rates of pay.

Tel: 029 20 700057 (option 2)

E-Mail: **business@crossroads-vale.org.uk**

Reg. Charity No. 1061381

BRINSONS

Part Time Property Administrator

3 days per week including Saturday

CVs to audrey.clemenger@brinsons.co.uk

The GEM

Why not advertise your trade in the GEM pages & reach potential Vale customers.

Call **01446 774484**

gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk

Family Notices

HYETT

Suzanne (Suzie)

On 21st March 2014, aged 65 years, passed away peacefully at home within the love and care of her family. Reunited with her beloved husband Peter, much loved mum of Sally and Helen and a devoted grandma. Sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Service Bournemouth Crematorium on Thursday, 27th March at 2.00pm. Family flowers only please, if desired donations made payable to "Shelter" may be sent c/o George Scott Funeral Services, 15 Somerset Road, Boscombe, BH7 6JH. Tel. 01202 395827

Funeral Directors

W. A. Brown & Son

Funeral Directors

• Pre-paid Funeral Plans
• Memorial Masonry

Pembroke House
College Street, Llantwit Major
01446 792 489

www.wabrownfuneraldirectors.co.uk

Est 1946 - 24 hour Service

W. H. PREENE & SON

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST
PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN AVAILABLE

54 MAIN STREET, CADOXTON
Telephone 01446 420520

Cadoxton Funeral Home

Articles For Sale

VAX Rapide Ultimate
Carpet Cleaner
with Stair Hose & Tools. 12 months old. (Hand injury forces sale)
£100
01446 701101 12/13

Up and Over Hormann
Garage Door (Steel)
2200mm wide x 1900mm high incl. Steel Frame
£125 ono
02920 709513 12/13

Two Mobility Scooters
Excellent condition - like new.
Kymco Maxi L, 35 mile range.
Kymco Maxi, 22 mile range.
Both 8mph.
Offers
07968 164285 12/15

PC Trolley with Shelf
Size: 75cm H, 70cm W, 55cm D. Light pine & beech effect. As new **£45.**

Swivel Office Chair
Black/Grey, padded. As new **£35.**

Flymo Electric Lawnmower
Turbo Compact 300, Good condition **£35.**
01446 792112 12

Dining Table
Beech effect rectangle dining table, plus 4 faux black leather chairs **£55.**

19in Technica
Slimline TV/DVD Combo **£35.**

Coal Effect Electric Fire
Black with brass surround **£35.**

Red Shagpile Rug
140cm x 195cm **£20.**
01446 793247 13/14

Mobility Scooter
Kymco Midi 'X for U' model. Less than 12 months old. Only used twice - perfect condition.
£850 ono
01446 410056
(ask for Chris) 12/13

Oriental Carved Drinks Cabinet, Recliner Chair, 2 Seater Sofa, Kitchen Cabinet
for further information ring
01446 720592 12/13

Shoprider Sovereign Deluxe Scooter
Extra wide, dark red, lights and front basket, hardly used.
£450 ono
01446 792831 13/14

Thank You

Betty Walton

Betty would like to thank the staff at the Filco store in Llantwit Major for their help after her collapse on Friday.

House Sale

Private Sale
4 Bed Detached Family House
Highlight Park BARRY
Viewing recommended.
07840 690319
07513 597174

House Clearance

ANDREW WILLIAMS
HOUSE CLEARANCES
FULL/PART
Over 20 years experience. Sympathetic handling of deceased estates, used by estate agents and solicitors.
01446 409266
07885 251742

Birthdays

Happy Birthday DON JOHN

on **2nd April from all your friends at The GEM**

Nancy Burnett

Happy 80th Birthday on 27th March

Lots of love from Marilyn, Will, Sammie & Jamie. xxx

Wanted

WANTED
GARAGE TO RENT
Near/On Barry Island, for medium size car.
07721 531965

Lost & Found

FOUND.
Ginger Persian Cat
Very friendly,
Gladstone Road area of Barry
01446 410540
07828 000109

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:Rhif y cais: 2014/00245/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Installation of 8 No. outdoor condenser units to the rear elevation first floor
Location:/Lleoliad: Specsavers Opticians, 10, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00246/ADV
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed alterations to shopfront signage
Location:/Lleoliad: Specsavers Opticians, 10, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00242/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 62 residential dwellings, open space, sustainable urban drainage, vehicular and pedestrian accesses, landscaping and related infrastructure and engineering works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the rear of St David's Primary School, Colwinston

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00247/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retrospective application for the excavation of 3 ponds/basins
Location:/Lleoliad: The Barley Field, The Lawns, Cwrt yr Ala Road, Cardiff

Departure from Development Plan / Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2014/00242/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 62 residential dwellings, open space, sustainable urban drainage, vehicular and pedestrian accesses, landscaping and related infrastructure and engineering works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the rear of St David's Primary School, Colwinston

Application(s) with Environmental Statement/ Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8
Proposed development at Land south of Junction 34, M4, Hensol.

I give notice that Renishaw PLC is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access, for development comprising class B1, B2 and B8 uses; a hotel/residential training centre (class C1/C2); and ancillary uses within class A1, A2, A3; associated engineering and ground modelling works and infrastructure, car parking, drainage and access for all uses; provision of infrastructure (including energy centre(s)); landscaping and all ancillary enabling works.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement at a charge of £20.00 for the Non-Technical Summary, £100.00 for Volume 1 : ES main Text and figures, £150.00 for Volume 2 and 3 : ES Appendices or £20.00 for full copy (Volumes 1 and 2 with NTS) of the ES on CD from Environmental Planning Barton Willmore, 7 Soho Square, London W1D 3QB so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 17 April, 2014.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 17 April 2014 quoting reference 2014/00228/EAO.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8
Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Land south of Junction 34, M4, Hensol

Hysbysir trwy hyn Renishaw PLC n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access, for development comprising class B1, B2 and B8 uses; a hotel/residential training centre (class C1/C2); and ancillary uses within class A1, A2, A3; associated engineering and ground modelling works and infrastructure, car parking, drainage and access for all uses; provision of infrastructure (including energy centre(s)); landscaping and all ancillary enabling works

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd brynu copïau o'r datganiad am £20.00 for the Non-Technical Summary, £100.00 for Volume 1 : ES main Text and figures, £150.00 for Volume 2 and 3 : ES Appendices or £20.00 for full copy (Volumes 1 and 2 with NTS) of the ES on CD oddi wrth/o Environmental Planning Barton Willmore, 7 Soho Square, London W1D 3QB tra bydd y stoc ar gael.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

- cais;
- cynlluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 17 april, 2014.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 17 April 2014 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2014/00228/EAO.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 27 March, 2014

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB DO DOUBLE OVER WHITCHURCH

PENARTH Hockey Club set themselves up for a strong finish to the season with two comprehensive victories over old rivals Whitchurch in the penultimate round of games in the 2013-14 Davis Wood Hockey League.

PENARTH HC 5-2 WHITCHURCH 'B'

Knowing that promotion was out of reach following the defeat against Cardiff & Met the previous weekend, Penarth went into the penultimate game of season hoping to secure fourth position in De Cymru & The Marches l with a victory over Whitchurch 'B' at Barry Sports Centre.

The home side started the game well and it wasn't long before Chris Baker picked up the ball just outside the opposing '25' and skipped past three Whitchurch defenders to smash the ball into the bottom corner.

With Penarth dominating the opening encounters, and having been frustrated against Cardiff the previous weekend, it wasn't long before Baker exacted further revenge, doubling the Bears' lead after latching onto a superb aerial ball from Sam Docherty.

With halftime approaching, Penarth took another stride towards making the game safe, with Baker again playing a major role. This time, the forward's possession ended with a square ball to the back post, where Sam Wooding was waiting to tap in.

No doubt spurred on by the deficit they faced at the interval, Whitchurch started the second half in better form and it wasn't long before they got on the scoreboard, reducing the arrears to 3-1.

Penarth knew that they had to get the next goal to ensure they remained in control, however, and Baker provided the strike to make it 4-1, completing another hat-trick in the process.

Although Whitchurch scored next to make it 4-2, Penarth finished the game with a fifth goal after Matt Birch picked out Wooding at the back post to allow the youngster to add his second of the afternoon and cement a comfortable victory for the Vale side.

With 36 points from 21 games, Penarth have now secured fourth spot in their division, and will finish the season at Aberystwyth University with the pressure off.

WHITCHURCH 'E' 2-7 PENARTH HC 'A'

The 2nd XI's visit to Treforest to take on another of Whitchurch's myriad teams had echoes of the senior side's game, with an early lead coming close to being erased before the Bears were able to pull away in the final quarter.

Looking to avenge a 3-1 home defeat in the first half of the season, Penarth again rolled out their new-look formation, but came under early pressure from a well-organised Whitchurch squad.

Having resisted a string of penalty corners, largely due to some slick goalkeeping from Calum Grant, the visitors struck on the break – just as captain Nick Pratt had planned – with leading scorer Dave Watkins finishing clinically at the other end.

With Whitchurch reeling, Penarth wasted little time in adding a second, this time with Richard Clarkson picking up a rebound from the Vale side's opening penalty corner to fire home.

When Derek Wooding added a third shortly afterwards, all but pinching the ball off Clarkson's stick, it appeared that a rout may be on the cards, but the halftime whistle sounded to interrupt the scoring at 3-0.

As with the 1st XI game, it was Whitchurch who struck first after the interval, although the penalty corner strike which brought them back into the game already appeared more than a little high as it took a deflection off Richard Bromily's stick and flew into the roof of the net.

Buoyed by their good fortune, the hosts quickly added a second, again somewhat controversially as there was some doubt whether a hopeful strike from outside the Penarth 'D' took the necessary deflection to constitute a legal goal.

With the scoreline now only 3-2 in their favour, however, Penarth knew they had to fight back lest another strong position go begging.

Ironically, it was the loss of the influential Clarkson to injury which precipitated the game's final twist. Subconsciously reverting to their old style of play, Penarth extended their advantage with a second goal from Watkins, before Tom Davies completed another swift back-to-front move with the visitors' fifth.

Whitchurch were now restricted to sporadic breaks, the majority of which were ably dealt with by the defensive combination of Bromily, Zbig Sobierserski and Craig Llewellyn, while Penarth's forwards continued to take the chances that came their way.

The sixth goal saw Watkins complete his hat-trick following a nice build-up through youngsters Davies and Rory Vizzard, and the veteran then returned the compliment by setting up Vizzard for a strike of his own to complete the scoring at 7-2.

The victory allowed Penarth to move back above Neath into sixth in De Cymru 2.

Further progress into the top half of the division will require an unlikely 32-goal victory over rivals Cardiff & Met in the final game of the season this weekend.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability.

Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sport Centre every Wednesday, with the juniors in action between 6-7pm and seniors between 7-8pm.

Further information can be obtained from club secretary Dave Stevens via: d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk.

CL

Rhoose Lifeguards help out Sport Relief!

MEMBERS of the Rhoose Lifeguards Nippers Team took part in the Sports Relief Swimathon on March 21, held at Fontygary pool.

Brooke Peterson, Oliver Wong, Ethan Wall, Louie Gwatkin and Taran Downton all took to the water on the Friday evening and raised over £350 in total.

Congratulations to the Nippers who each swam between 100 and 200 lengths and raised a fantastic amount of money for charity.

Thanks also to the parents who helped organise the event and counted lengths on the evening. Well done everyone!

JF

News from Seaview Lads

FISHING has continued to disappoint the hardy anglers who bother to fish.

Spring usually brings a fresh run of fish and ever optimistic anglers look forward to a late run of codling that have been growing over the winter months along with dogs, rays, eels and bass.

The past few months have relied largely upon rockling and occasional odd decent specimen, resulting in low weights and poor sport.

A positive sign was Steve Dobles' litter of dogfish that made an impressive double figure catch so perhaps the fish are on the way in at last.

The shore results for 2013 demonstrate how difficult the fishing has been but congratulations to all the lads for sticking at it.

The memorial trophies were won by Jo Peterson (Bert Peterson memorial cup), Glyn Warner (Eddie Frost trophy) and Paul Crook won the Wyndham Page cup.

Overall angler of the year yet again went to Mickey Langford who seems to own this trophy; he was also shore angler of the year.

Doubles were won by Steve Doble with a little help from Paul Crook, while Paul Coles took the midweek shore trophy.

Aida Harries won the specimen hunter trophy and Kevin Sala the best specimen.

Heaviest overall weight with 140lb was taken by Richard Lougher, which demonstrates how few fish have been weighed in and how much of an achievement this is, while Kevin Sala took the biggest one day total; Paul Crook had most species for the year.

Sportsman of the year will be decided at the AGM.

RECENT RESULTS:

March 2 - 1st P Crook 2lb 10oz, 2nd S Davies 11oz.

March 16 - 1st S Doble 10lb 1oz, 2nd A Harris 4lb 7oz, 3rd P Crook 1lb 1oz, 4th R Lougher 6.5oz.

JC

Point to Point comes to the Vale!

THERE was plenty of action last weekend at Ystradowen, when the Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases came to town.

It was a packed race card, that saw Ogmore's Nick Williams ride his 150th winner between-the-flags with Once In A Lifetime.

Turn to page 37 to read BRIAN LEE'S report.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

Bees return to form

BARRY BEES RFC under-11s travelled to Fairwater after a dip in form last week.

The Bees wasted no time in taking the game to the home team, and after a number of phases the Fairwater defence was completely stretched, with Spencer Williams jinking his way over the line for the first score.

This set the pattern, with the Barry pack dominant at the breakdown, the backs had stacks of possession and territory.

Cole Saunders went over for the next try after another series of powerful plays. This was quickly followed by an excellent try from Robson Mallom, after an excellent pass from Cian Anderson.

Barry continued to press and pinned the home team deep in their own half; the pressure took its toll, and Jacob Pereira pounced on a loose ball for another try.

Isaac McBride completed an excellent first half team performance with a barnstorming run to make the final score 25-0 at the break.

Fairwater came out for the second half in a very determined mood, and began to win some ball which they exploited adroitly with two flowing moves to bring them back into the game.

These two scores woke up the Bees and Cian dummied his way through the home defence for another score.

Again Fairwater responded well and scored another well worked try after an excellent move that took them the length of the pitch.

Barry finished the stronger with a typically powerful try from Jake Frost, and another for Cole as he cut through the home defence once more to make the final score 40-15.

This was a very strong performance from the Bees, and they now need to maintain this form for the rest of the season.

Squad: Isaac McBride, Rhys Lloyd, Jake Frost, James Campbell, Charlie Bale, Dylan Morris, Joe Davies, Stephen Williams, Cian Anderson, Cole Saunders, Jacob Pereira, Spencer Williams, Joe Nationstead, Robson Mallom, Kie Scurlock, Cameron Foster.

JM

Barry darts league round-up

THE Poachers look almost certain to retain the Premier League title after a crushing 9-0 away win to the Plastics.

Craig Harris hit a 104 out shot. The Park Weasels beat the Dartonians by 5-4 and the Wanderers had a 5-4 away win against the Windsor Nomads.

The Cwm Talwg had an impressive 8-1 away win against the Billy Ghosts. Martin Andrews hit a 180 and Mark Driscoll hit a 125 out shot.

In the First Division, Mariners 66 secured the runners-up slot with a 9-0 win over the Starlets.

RL

MARIA'S TASTE FOR ADVENTURE LEADS TO A STUNNING NEW WORLD RECORD

EVERYONE likes a bit of adventure in their lives but Maria Leijerstam, from Bonvilston in the Vale, has spent her life taking it much further than average!

by PHILIP IRWIN

It all culminated recently when, in January, after four years of planning, she set a new world record by cycling to the South Pole!

It was an immense effort, and she suffered from more than just the extreme cold, as an injury to her patella (knee cap) meant that she had to continued pedalling through excruciating pain.

TV viewers last week watched Prince Harry and his fellow walkers on the 'Walking with the Wounded' team endure similar hardship at the South Pole, but Maria had a much closer view.

She explained: "To start my cycle ride, I flew in on a Hercules from Cape Town to the Russian Antarctic Station at the South Pole.

"Prince Harry and his walkers were waiting there, because they were flying home on the same plane."

"We spent 10 minutes talking, and he was keen to find out about my challenge – but he was also keen to get home!"

Once Prince Harry had flown out, Maria and her revolutionary ice cycle were taken in a specially adapted truck to the starting point – and then it was up to Maria to make it back – across 650 kilometres of frozen wasteland, very little of which was flat and easy terrain.

Maria explained: "The South Pole is at 3,000 metres, and you have a choice of routes. It's a question of which glacier you choose to ascend."

From the original race to the South Pole between Capt Scott and Amundsen, the choice of route has always been important – and so it was for Maria.

She had rivals as well, two other (male) teams who were aiming to cycle to the Pole but, truth be told, it was no race at all, as Maria's astonishing time of 10 days, 14 hours and 56 minutes totally eclipsed the opposition!

The secret of her success lay in her own determination and in four years of planning. One key factor was the time Maria spent with Inspired Cycle Engineering of Cornwall, the company which designed her cycle.

The design, enabling her to lie back and pedal, helped her cope with the strong winds – very important because the prevailing wind direction was against!

The tricycle design was crucial, giving her much more stability over rough terrain. She also spent a time asking research stations in the area for help in mapping out a route. The Antarctic is not extensively mapped, and it was a question of piecing together a route from partial information from a number of sources.

Planning an Antarctic adventure comes with a great deal of bureaucracy and rules. Maria had a total of three interviews before being granted a visa, and then came the rules governing any Antarctic travel – a mixture of the bizarre and the scary.

For instance, the official advice for anyone going to the area for a time is to have your appendix removed! There is no guarantee, you see, that a surgeon could get to you in time.

Another (very) surprising rule concerns disposing of any waste products that you generate. A radius of 100 km from the South Pole is to be kept 'pure' – and no waste at all can be buried there. Outside the 100km mark, you are allowed to bury waste – both packaging and 'natural'.

It means that the unique environment is protected. Maria explained: "It is a world where nothing lives, and there are no smells at all – just ice and glaciers stretching as far as you can see."

Over the 10 days that Maria was cycling, she was pedalling for up to 17 hours a day, burning 4,000 calories during that time. Food was dried, and so she needed to light a stove and melt ice to prepare it – something that takes several hours – and this leaves little time for unpacking a tent and getting some sleep.

This is where Maria's passion for adventure racing was a huge help. She discovered the sport in her early 20s, while at university, and it combines running, cycling and kayaking over wide areas, frequently over six or seven days, with very limited opportunities for sleep.

Maria explained: "Adventure racing involves teams of four – three boys and a girl. The girl is jokingly known as 'compulsory baggage' but the truth is that we have greater powers of endurance. The boys go off faster but suffer more".

On a typical six-day race, the team will grab about two hours of sleep a night, on average, and in the later stages, sleep-deprivation causes hallucinations!

Surprisingly, Maria was not particularly sporty in school. She played tennis but not much else. However, at university she joined the Officers' Training Corps and discovered she enjoyed testing herself on physical challenges.

She didn't neglect her studies, though, and gained a maths degree, which led to her working for BA Systems on calibrating missile guidance systems.

The adventure racing became a passion, and this has taken her all over the world – from Russia to Patagonia. She is now back in the Vale, managing the family's deer estate in Bonvilston, and promoting her 'mini burn' series of races.

These are mini versions of adventure racing, and are tailored for families, where a family team will cycle, run and kayak in the countryside. Maria says that is a great opportunity for parents to do something active with their children.

Is Maria settled in the Vale now? Well, the Ice Cycle Challenge to the South Pole has left her in debt, so she is aiming to recoup those costs with talks to corporate clients.

However, she is toying with one more big adventure – which is very hush hush at the moment.....

For information on the Burn Series, go to *www.burnseries.co.uk*, and for details of speaking engagements, visit *www.whiteicecycle.com*

A brief Royal Antartic encounter; Maria disembarks her flight and is greeted by an eager Prince Harry, who is looking forward to boarding!

Are you ready for some local family adventures? Then join the Vale's own world record holder, Maria Leijerstam in next week's GEM!

Starting exclusively in next week's GEM, Maria Leijerstam will be setting our readers simple adventures each week that the whole family can take part in, leading up to the summer. Make it your mission to have a calendar full of adventures in 2014. Full details www.burnseries.co.uk/youradventure and see next week's GEM for the first adventure!

New Volvo has plenty of high-tech features

by TIM SAUNDERS

LASER radar sounds like something off a sci-fi thriller but we're actually talking about technology fitted to Volvo cars, those traditionally staid and dull vehicles, favoured by the flat cap brigade.

Today's hip and trendy Volvos are anything but and are packed with sophisticated technology that keeps the brand at the forefront of car design and manufacture. Its laser radar systems are a key ingredient.

I'm testing the V40 D3 R-Design, a performance five-door hatchback and it's fitted with an intelligent yet simple to operate cruise control. As you might expect, this keeps the car travelling at the desired speed but unlike most systems it also measures the distance of the car in front.

This ensures that it keeps the Volvo at a safe distance behind. It does this by automatically braking and accelerating thanks to the information relayed by its clever laser radar.

This distance can be changed from reasonably close to quite far away, depending on driving conditions.

In theory, this is a valuable tool that should mean that the driver can relax. Not so though. My test takes place in torrential downpours and high winds and I discover that the radar is not infallible.

This becomes particularly noticeable while at 70mph round a bend on a dual carriageway. The Volvo is in the outside lane but on approaching the bend there is a car on the inside and the radar picks this up and brakes abruptly, despite there being no cars in front of me. This annoys me and I cancel the function.

On another occasion, we are on a straight road and high winds cause a flashing red warning bar on the driver's side of the dashboard to light up – accompanied by a really loud beep – for absolutely no reason whatsoever. My sleeping children wake up.

The Volvo V40 D3 R-Design

High side winds seem to completely throw the radar and despite there being no traffic in front, the Volvo brakes sharply from 70mph to 50mph.

That said, this cruise control is quite impressive when you bear in mind that it can be set at say, 50mph, and if a sharp incline appears the resulting gear change does not cancel out the cruise control. Often this is the case in many other vehicles.

Another safety feature is the blind spot information system. There's a little light on the inside of the wing mirror that glows red whenever a vehicle appears in the blind spot.

This is useful, because the design is prone to blind spots, especially at the rear making it a little awkward to reverse but there are helpful sensors fitted that bleep to alert the driver of nearby obstacles.

As a driver's car, the Volvo is engaging and the R-Design model, which comes with big alloys, a smooth power delivery for a diesel and a low chassis, corners really well.

To give it a good run I drive it to Sandbanks, Poole, West Stafford near Dorchester and a lovely little village near Didcot, Oxford. All are places we had not visited before, so why not?

With an average fuel consumption of over 65mpg it will easily cover over 600 miles on its 60-litre tank. It is fitted with engine start/stop. These relatively long journeys in generally heavy lashing rain allow me to experience the car in the worst conditions.

At one point it rains so heavily that even with the wipers on the fastest speed it is impossible to see and thankfully traffic eventually slows to a crawl.

I find the leather sports seats too hard and not supportive enough for my lower back and there is a disappointing lack of a footrest for the driver's left foot. I struggle with operating the heating because both left and right sides of the car are operated from a single dial near the driver – the switch that's incorporated has to be pushed once for left and again for right.

It's all a bit confusing for a simple soul when they're focusing on the road, so luckily my wife is there to operate the more technical things.

The boot is large enough for our single pushchair.

This 150bhp 2-litre diesel is a gutsy car that has enough power when required. Finished to a high standard, the sound of the engine can be heard on tick over, which does alert the occupants to the fact that they're in a diesel.

Facts at a glance: Volvo V40 D3 R-Design, New price: £31,780.

0-60mph: 9.1 secs, Top speed: 130mph, Economy: 65.7mpg, Fuel capacity: 60 litres.

League success for Vale under-12 girls!

THE Vale Dragons under-12 girls team were recently celebrating after two wins on Sunday, March 23, secured the league division two title.

The team, coached by David and Mica Buffin, have developed superbly over the season, having been placed into division two of the under-12 South Wales Girls League in November.

The team has gone on to record an impressive 13 victories, five draws and just one defeat from their 19 games, with one week of the season to go.

This is an excellent achievement for a young team that were only put together in the summer of 2013, and with half the players playing football for the first time.

The club has enjoyed a very strong season at under-12 level, with the under-12 Vale Athletic team winning the Futsal Cup and also competing at the top of division one, which highlights the progress the club is making after just two years in operation.

The club is about the launch its summer recruitment programme for new players and anyone wanting to get involved should contact Luke Williams on 07832 273688 or email valegirlsfc@gmail.com.

More information is available on the club website valegirlsfc.co.uk.

LW

Good day out for JSTKD students!

Back row (left to right): Chris Edwards, Ashton Curnick, Menna Burmingham, Lynne Doel.
Front row (left to right): Rhys Doel, Josh Edwards, Sean Edwards, Harri Burmingham.

STUDENTS from Vale-based JSTKD Martial Arts & Fitness excelled at the recent English Tae Kwon Do Championships held in Worcester.

Ashton Curnick (13), who will be heading with the Welsh team to the European Tae Kwon Do Championships later this month, fought magnificently to win gold, becoming the English champion in the green belt lightweight division.

His Welsh team-mates, Menna Burmingham (10) and Harri Burmingham (nine) also fought well in their respective divisions but missed out on the medals this time around.

Further medal success came from the team's youngest member, Sean Edwards (six) who narrowly missed out on gold after a close-run contest in the final. After a brave battle, he eventually took the silver in the tiny tots yellow belt division.

Rhys Doel (10) who is the current Welsh peewee division champion, moved up to the boys' lightweight red belt category this time. He started strongly, displaying excellent head kicks in the first round but just lost out in the second despite continuing to exhibit some solid skills.

It was a similar story for team mate Josh Edwards who also fought well in the earlier rounds before going out of the tournament.

Not to be outdone, the adults were also determined to make their mark with Lynne Doel winning the silver in the ladies' light heavyweight division. Lynne did particularly well considering she only took up Tae Kwon Do less than two years ago after watching her children train at the club.

Chris Edwards and Simon Morgan, both novices, fought in the men's middleweight division and although doing well, did not progress to the finals.

Joseph Schembri, head instructor, praised his students' achievements, commenting: "The team did brilliantly and we are now looking forward to building on our success at the Welsh Championships in May."

For further details of JSTKD's classes in Barry and throughout the Vale visit www.jstkd.co.uk.

VW

NEWLY APPOINTED DEALER IN CARDIFF
TOUGH JOBS
CALL FOR A TOUGH PICK-UP
Full Dealer Service
Parts & Repairs
5 YEAR WARRANTY 125,000 miles*
3.5 Ton Towing Capacity

Isuzu only produce commercial vehicles. That's why we can provide you with the pick-up you really need. The Isuzu D-Max is tough, hardworking, dependable and always prepared to go the extra mile. That's because it's built, sold and used by professionals.
All prices plus VAT & Road Fund Licence
ISUZU D-MAX
CALL IN OR CALL US TODAY
Watts Truck & Van
Call Paul Lewis on 02920 367883 or 07811 255417
LOW RATE FINANCE AVAILABLE
ISUZU THE PICK-UP PROFESSIONALS
Whittle Road, Leckwith Industrial Estate, Cardiff CF11 8AT (off Hadfield Road) www.wattstvc.co.uk • Follow us on Facebook & Twitter

Barrivale bridge club

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club, March 18:

1st Kay Dyer and Denis Mottram 63.89 per cent; joint 2nd Lyn Matthews and Alan Jones and Irene Thomas and Jane Brook 56.28. Vivien Liles and Hilary Laurence won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale; if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

MB

We welcome your reports, news and other items of interest - email us at:
gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

THRILLS AND SPILLS AT YSTRADOWEN!

THERE were plenty of spills and thrills for the huge crowd at the Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Ystradowen on Saturday where Ogmore's Nick Williams rode his 150th winner between-the-flags (*see pictures on page 34*).

Nick took the young horse maiden race on *Once In A Lifetime*, a six-year-old bay gelding which won by one-and-a-half lengths from *Our Difference*.

Williams, who has also ridden plenty of winners under rules, won the Horse & Hound Cup at Stratford on *Torduff Express* in 2004 two years after his older brother Christian had been successful on *Primaticcio* in 2002.

The first three races all went to Tenby's John Mathias. He won on *CanSheTrain* (Members), *Brooklyn Heights* (Aged Maiden) and *Captain Scarlett* (Confined). Robert Jones' *CanSheTrain* was an easy winner but both *Brooklyn Heights* and *Captain Scarlett* could be considered lucky winners.

Brooklyn Heights was behind *Barney Dunne* (Bradley Gibbs) who looked to have his race in the bag, only to stumble at the last fence and *Captain Scarlett* looked beaten when *PatrickTom Boru*, who led going to the last, collided with a marker. *PatrickTom Boru's* rider, Evan David, was airlifted to hospital.

Amber Griffiths is the trainer of *CanSheTrain* and *Brooklyn Heights* but *Captain Scarlett* is trained by Wick's Robbie Llewellyn for his father Gary, who was visiting the winner's enclosure for the first time in around 10 years.

Kris Hanmer, aged 23, who rides out for Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, won the mixed open race on Andrew Quick's grey *Sangfroid* a former inmate of Tim Vaughan's yard.

Sangfroid, who is not the easiest of rides, won by two lengths from the favourite *Cock Of The Rock* and his rider did well to win on him as the horse has been awarded the infamous Timeform squiggle – which means he is unreliable.

Mr Quick, mine host of The Greendown Inn, is also to be congratulated on getting the 10-year-old back to his winning ways. He says the horse will now run in the Bonhams Hunter Chase at Cheltenham on April 30.

Pyle's David Brace OBE, who owns *Cock Of The Rock*, saw his promising home-bred five-year-old *Dbobe*, well ridden by Bradley Gibbs, win the restricted race by two lengths from Neighbours Lady.

RESULTS:

Members: CanSheTrain (John Mathias) 5-1; Young Horse Maiden: Brooklyn Heights (John Mathais) 2-1; Confined:Captain Scarlett (John Mathias) 16-1; Mixed Open: Sangfroid (Kris Hanmer) 7-1; Restricted: Dbobe (Bradley Gibbs) 4-1 co-favourite; Maiden: Once In A Lifetime (Nick Williams) 9-4 favourite.

The Monmouthshire Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases take place at Llanvapley this Saturday (first race 1pm); racegoers should note that the first of the two pony races will be run at 11am.

BRIAN LEE

Petanque season starts with triples

THE Stuart Clarke Cup triples competition opened the 2014 petanque season on Sunday, March 15, at the Wenvoe PC.

Congratulations to the winning team RBB, comprising Jean-Yves Robic (Penarth PC), Phil Bradshaw and Ian Bailey (both of the Monkstone Inn PC), who won all six of their games to take this year's Stuart Clarke Cup.

In second place were the team of Gemma Foster, Jake Caston (both of the Wheatsheaf PC) and Bob Pugh (Wenvoe PC).

A special congratulations must go to the team of Valerie and Robert Falconer and John Thorn (all from the Penarth PC) who finished third after beating some extremely experienced teams.

It was good to see some new faces taking part in the competition, especially a team from Monmouth PC.

The National Veterans' Championship took place on Sunday, March 23, again at the Wenvoe PC. The winners of this year's National Championship will be invited to represent Wales at the European Veterans' Championship in Lulelå, Sweden, between June 27/28.

Everyone is welcome to come and watch and learn more about this great sport.

JS

6 YEAR WARRANTY

STEED

The only pick-up to carry a 6 year warranty*

The Steed range from just £13,998 CV ONE

Class leading insurance Class leading fuel economy

• Leather interior • Heated seats • Galvanised body panels • Air-conditioning • Keyless entry
• Six speed manual transmission • Steering wheel audio controls • Bluetooth® hands free

TANNER'S
Whitchurch Road Cardiff CF14 3AT
Tel. 029 2022 5580
www.tannerscardiff.com / mob. 07768 848790

Great Wall wise choice

EXHAUSTS • TYRES • BATTERIES • 4x4 TYRES • SHOCKS • BRAKES • MOT'S • DISCS • SERVICING

FREE SPRING CHECK
CALL INTO ETB FOR YOUR FREE SPRING SAFETY CHECK!

DON'T CHANCE IT.
GET YOUR TYRES CHECKED FOR FREE!

BRIDGESTONE PREMIUM SPECIALS

Size / Make		Price
195/50 VR 15	Bridgestone T001	£56.50
195/65 VR 15	Bridgestone T001	£63.50
205/55 VR 16	Bridgestone T001	£71.50
225/45 YR 17	Bridgestone S001	£97.50
225/40 YR 18	Bridgestone S001 XL	£115.00

AVON TYRES PREMIUM SPECIALS

Size / Make		Price
205/55WR16	Avon ZV5	£64.95
215/55WR16	Avon ZV5 X/L	£85.95
225/45WR17	Avon ZV5 X/L	£88.95
225/40WR18	Avon ZV5 X/L	£99.95

WINTER SPECIALS

195/65 HR 15 Avon Ice £69.95
205/55 HR 16 Avon Ice £79.95

STANDARD TYRES from £31.95

165/70TR13 ..... FROM ONLY £31.95
175/70TR14 ..... FROM ONLY £38.95
175/65TR14 ..... FROM ONLY £33.50

PERFORMANCE TYRES from £38.50

185/65HR14 ..... FROM ONLY £38.50
185/65HR15 ..... FROM ONLY £38.95
195/65HR15 ..... FROM ONLY £39.75

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from £39.95

185/55VR15 ..... FROM ONLY £41.00
195/50VR15 ..... FROM ONLY £42.50
195/65VR15 ..... FROM ONLY £39.95
205/55VR16 ..... FROM ONLY £44.95

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from £47.95

205/55WR16 ..... FROM ONLY £47.95
215/55WR16 ..... FROM ONLY £53.95
225/45WR17 ..... FROM ONLY £49.95
225/40WR18 ..... FROM ONLY £49.95

GOODYEAR DUNLOP PREMIUM SPECIALS

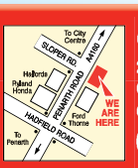
195/65 VR 15 GOODYEAR EfficientGrip £61.95
205/55 VR 16 GOODYEAR EfficientGrip £68.95
195/55 HR 16 GOODYEAR Excellence RunOnFlat £99.50
205/55 VR 16 DUNLOP BluResponse £68.95

EXHAUSTS
To fit Ford Ka 1.3 '02-'08 Rear Silencer (154-123) only £39.95

BATTERIES
With 3 YEAR WARRANTY (UK063E) only £47.95

IF YOUR TYRE SIZE IS NOT SHOWN PLEASE CALL FOR A QUOTATION.
ALL INCLUSIVE PRICES WITH NO HIDDEN EXTRAS!

BARRY
Cardiff Road, Cadoxton
Barry
CF63 2QW
01446 733167



CARDIFF
271 Penarth Road
Cardiff
CF11 8TT
029 20 382644

ETB
A family run business for over 30 years.

MOT SPECIAL OFFER ONLY £35
Please quote 'The Gem'

WE ARE OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8.00am - 5.30pm, SATURDAYS 8.00am - 4.00pm.
OUR PRICES ARE ALL INCLUSIVE – NO HIDDEN EXTRAS! ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE!

• NEW STOCK ARRIVING DAILY! • NEW STOCK ARRIVING DAILY! • NEW STOCK ARRIVING DAILY! • NEW STOCK ARRIVING DAILY! •

04 MINI Cooper (Pepper)
In met blue, 68,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, very nice example
£4,495

54 MERCEDES SLK 350 Auto
In silver with leather, sat nav, air scarf etc, stylish convertable
£8,995

55 KIA Sportage 2.0 CRDi XE
5-dr, black, 76,000 miles, 1 lady owner
£5,995

58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTi
5-Dr, silver, 33,000 miles, diesel
£6,495

10 RENAULT Scenic 1.5 DCi Privilege
Met silver, 44,000 miles, 1 owner
£7,495

JUST A SELECTION OF OUR STOCK...

08 LAND ROVER Discovery 3 2.7 Diesel HSE Automatic
In Silver with black leather, 58,000 miles, high spec
£19,995

57 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 M Play
In red, 3-dr, 36,000 miles, low insurance
£3,995

60 MERCEDES B160 Sport
(Blue Efficiency) In black, 25,000 miles
£10,495

04 MERCEDES C200 Diesel
Light met blue, 89,000 miles
Reduced to £4,295

08 LAND ROVER Discovery 3 2.7 Diesel HSE, Automatic, 7-Seater. in silver with black leather, 58,000 miles, high spec **£19,995**
60 MERCEDES C200 CDi Blue Efficiency Executive SE. In white, with black leather trim, 28,000 miles **£14,995**
61 SAAB 9.5 Vector SE 2.0 TD (160) Auto. In met grey, 41,000 miles with leather trim **£12,995**
60 MERCEDES B160 Sport (Blue Efficiency). In black, 25,000 miles, on offer at **£10,495**
54 MERCEDES SLK 350 Auto. In silver, with leather, sat nav, air scarf etc, stylish convertible at **£8,995**
10 FORD Mondeo 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr. In silver, 31,000 miles, usual refinements **£8,995**
11 KIA Venga 2 1.6 Automatic. In red, 20,000 miles, a/c, alloys, p/sensors **£8,695**
11 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique 7-seater. In ice blue metallic, 27,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,495**
11 VW Polo 1.2 Diesel (75) SE. In silver, 65,000 miles, fantastic value at **£7,995**
10 RENAULT Scenic 1.5 DCi Privelege. In met silver, 44,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,495**
59 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTi Active + In black, 26,000 miles, 1 owner, diesel, 7-seater **£7,495**
03 BMW X5 3.0 Sport Auto. In silver with black leather, 86,000 miles, nice example at **£6,995**
56 FORD S-Max 1.8 Diesel Zetec 7 Seater. In silver, 82,000 miles, very nice example at **£6,995**
11 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 5-Dr. In electric blue, 32,000 miles, good looking car at **£6,795**
60 FORD Ka 1.4 Diesel Zetec In bright met blue, 29,000 miles, 1 owner, fantastic MPG **£6,495**
58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTi Design 5-Dr. In silver, 33,000 miles diesel at **£6,495**
08 MINI Cooper. In oxigen blue with white roof, 59,000 miles, 1 owner with stop/start **£6,495**
59 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique. New shape, 62,000 miles, in met silver **£5,695**
08 SEAT Leon 1.6 Stylance. In met gold, 57,000 miles, stylish family hatch **£5,995**
55 KIA Sportage 2.0 CRDi XE 5-dr. In black, 76,000 miles, 1 lady owner, diesel 4x4 at **£5,995**
07 MINI Cooper Pepper Automatic. In lightning blue, with black roof, 70,000 miles with sat-nav etc **£5,695**
58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi Coupe. In black, 63,000 miles, 2 owners, very attractive at **£5,495**
58 VW Polo 1.4 TDi Match 3-Dr. In met grey, 69,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,495**
07 SSANGYONG Rexton RX 270 SE Diesel 7-Seater. In silver, black leather, DVD etc, 63,000 miles, 4x4 ..... **£5,495**
03 AUDI TT 225 Coupe Quattro. In met grey, with full leather trim, 63,000 miles **£5,495**
10 PEUGEOT 207 Verve 1.4 3-Dr. In gunmetal, metalic, 39,000 miles, alloys, a/c etc **£5,295**
09 FORD KA 1.2 Style (New Shape). In black, 46,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,995**
05 VOLVO V70 2.4 SE (170) Auto. Met grey/beige leather, 80,000 miles, large estate **£4,995**
56 TOYOTA Avensis 2.2 D-4D T180. In met silver, 82,000 miles with leather, sat-nav etc **£4,995**
53 MERCEDES CLK 200 Elegance Auto. In jasper blue with full leather, 66,000 mile coupe at **£4,995**
58 HYUNDAI i10 Comfort 1.2 5-dr. In met grey, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,695**
07 NISSAN Note 1.6 SVE Automatic. In silver, 47,000 miles, superb example **£4,695**
58 FORD FIESTA 1.2 Zetec Climate 3-Dr. In apple green metallic **£4,495**
58 SMART Fortwo Passion MHD Auto In met blue/black two tone, 25,000 miles, 21,000 miles **£4,495**
07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SXi Automatic. In black, 52,000 miles with a/c **£4,495**
04 MINI Cooper (Pepper). In met blue, 68,000 miles, 1 owner with a/c, very nice example **£4,495**
04 MERCEDES C200 Diesel Avantgarde SE Auto. In light met blue, 89,000 miles **£4,295**
04 VW Beetle 1.9 Diesel. In speed blue, 53,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,295**
07 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-Dr. In met grey, 70,000 miles with a/c, alloys etc **£4,295**
55 MINI Cooper. In chilli red with black roof, alloys, c/d etc, superb value at **£4,295**
04 VW Beetle 1.9 Diesel. In speed blue, 53,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,295**
09 CHEVROLET Aveo 1.2 LS 5-Dr. In silver, 24,000 miles, fantastic value at **£3,995**
08 MAZDA 2 1.4 TS2 3-dr. In red, nice bright local car, £30 road tax, low insurance **£3,995**
57 DODGE Calibra 1.8 SXT. In met burnt orange, 75,000 miles, superb value **£3,995**
57 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 M Play 3-Dr. In red, 36,000 miles, low insurance **£3,995**
56 SEAT Altea 1.6 Sport. In tungsten silver, 63,000 miles, superb example **£3,995**
55 MERCEDES C180 Kompressor SE Auto. In silver, fantastic value, executive saloon **£3,995**
05 PEUGEOT 307cc 2.0. In met grey, full electric folding roof, 69,000 miles **£3,995**
05 MERCEDES A170 Elegance SE 5-Dr. In met gold, 84,000 miles, nice example at **£3,995**
54 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 Sport Auto. In Jaguar racing green with beige leather, 89,000 miles, superb example at **£3,995**
07 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi Coupe. In black, a/c, alloys etc, stylish sport coupe **£3,695**
07 CITROEN C1 Vibe 3-Dr. In red, 44,000 miles, with rear spoiler, low insurance **£3,695**
07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique 3-Dr. In black, 53,000 miles **£3,695**
06 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVTi Sport. In met grey, 69,000 miles, £30 road tax **£3,695**
08 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus 5-Dr. In black, 67,000 miles, low insurance **£3,495**
56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Activ 5-dr. In met silver, 50,000 miles, low insurance **£3,495**
56 PEUGEOT 207 1.4S (90) 3-dr. In electric blue, 63,000 miles with a/c **£3,495**
57 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5-Dr. In ice blue, 49,000 miles, low insurance **£3,295**
08 FORD KA 1.3 Style. In silver, 39,000 miles, low insurance **£2,695**
05 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 3-Dr. In crystal green, 52,000 miles, alloys, a/c **£2,995**
05 CITROEN C2 1.4 Diesel LX. In black, 73,000 miles, 2 owners **£2,995**
05 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SE. In red with black leather trim, 70,000 miles, sports coupe at **£2,995**
05 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi SXi 5-Dr. In silver, 67,000 miles, very nice example **£2,995**
04 SUZUKI Wagon R 1.3 Automatic. In met blue, 73,000 miles, easy to get in and out **£2,695**
07 FORD KA Style. In met blue, 27,000 miles, 1 owner, low insurance **£2,495**
55 FORD Street KA 1.6 Ice. In met grey, with full leather, 59,000 miles, convertable at **£2,495**
04 MAZDA 2 125 5-dr. In met blue, 59,000 miles, low insurance **£2,495**
53 FORD StreetKA. In electric blue, 66,000 miles, convertable at **£2,495**
51 HONDA Civic 1.6 V-Tec S Automatic 3-Dr. In silver, 53,000 miles, 1 owner **£2,495**
53 FIAT Punto 1.4 Sporting, 6 speed. In ice blue, 70,000 miles, multi c/d, alloys **£2,195**
54 RENAULT Laguna 1.8 Extreme. In met grey, 71,000 miles, 1 owner **£1,795**
53 ROVER 75 1.8 SE. In met gold, 89,000 miles, nice example at **£1,795**

58 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Climate 3-Dr.
In apple green, metallic
£4,495

04 VW Beetle 1.9 Diesel
In speed blue, 53,000 miles, 1 owner
£4,295

60 FORD Ka 1.4 Diesel Zetec
Bright met blue, 29,000 miles, 1 owner, fantastic mpg
Reduced to £6,495

61 SAAB 9.5 Vector SE 2.0 TD (160) Auto
Met grey, 41,000 miles with leather trim
£12,995

RAC WARRANTIES

All cars supplied with new MoT and 3 months RAC warranty.
Just a small selection of our comprehensive range in stock. Visit our website for full details.

RAC WARRANTIES

Broad Street, Barry *(Next to Barry Train Station)* **01446 722600**

FINANCE PACKAGES TO SUIT ALL • 0% DEPOSIT FINANCE AVAILABLE • ALL CARS HPi CLEAR • PART EXCHANGE WELCOME • OPEN 7 DAYS CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

hpi

MULTI-PHOTOS AND FULL DESCRIPTION ON WEBSITE
www.garywatsonmotorcompany.co.uk

blackhorse

BMW - MINI | MERCEDES BENZ - SMART | PORSCHE - AUDI - VW - SEAT - SKODA | JAGUAR

VW UP/SEAT Mii/Škoda Citigo	
Parking Sensors	£95
Basic Oil Change	£45
Front Brake Pads	£49
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
Minor Service	£85
Spark Plugs	£40

VW Polo/Seat Ibiza/Skoda Fabia	
Spare Key with programming	£45
Diesel Remap	£95
Basic Oil Change	£47
Front Brake Pads	£50
Clutch	£145
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
Minor Service	£95

VW Golf/Seat Leon/Audi A3	
Spare Key with programming	£45
Diesel Remap	£95
Basic Oil Change	£49
Front Brake Pads	£55
Clutch	£170
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
Minor Service	£99

BMW 1 Series	
Basic Oil Change	£60
Front Brake Pads	£75
Software Update	£95
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
CBS Brake Fluid	£35
CBS Oil Service	£95

BMW 3 Series / Z3 / Z4	
Basic Oil Change	£65
Front Brake Pads	£99
Runflat Tyres	£90 each
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
CBS Brake Fluid	£35
CBS Oil Service	£110

Mercedes C Class / CLK / CLC	
Basic Oil Change	£65
Front Brake Pads	£105
Transmission Flush	£95
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
A Service	£145
B Service	£265

BMW Mini	
Basic Oil Change	£60
Front Brake Pads	£75
Clutch	£250
Dealer Specification Servicing:-	
CBS Brake Fluid	£35
CBS Oil Service	£95

Excellent Value
Superb Customer Service
Happy Customers
Quality Parts
Qualified Experienced Former Dealer Staff
Advanced Diagnostics

Typical Prices	
MOT Test	£25
Air-Con Regas	£45
Wheel Alignment	£25
EGR Valve Repairs	£65
Turbo Cleaning	£55
DPF Regen	£55
Key Batteries (inc Fitting)	£5
Brake Inspection	Free
Car Safety Check	Free
Battery Test (inc printout)	Free

Prices shown are typical of the cost. Price will vary depending on age of car and the type of oil required. The price shown represents the smaller engine in the model series. Written estimates available on request. Spare Keys and Remap at prices shown in red is only available to existing servicing customers.

When you use DATSC to service your vehicle we include in our basic price what others charge you extra for, including the dealer.

Top Quality Genuine Parts

Fitting black market imported parts just doesn't work. For servicing we only fit genuine parts.

Mobil1, Castrol and Fuchs Oils

We only service cars using the correct APPPROVED oil of high quality.

Most local garages and MOT centres use cheaper reverse engineered oils from the local motor factors which may claim to meet the specifications but have not attained manufacturer approval.

Free Courtesy Cars or Collection/Drop Off

Not only is use of the vehicle free, the insurance is covered. Please arrange at the time of booking to avoid disappointment.

Free Diagnostic Plugin (worth £125 at a typical franchised dealer)

As part of every service schedule we do, we provide a FREE code scan to assess for any fault codes or errors logged. This is part of our strive for PREVENTATIVE maintenance. Solve a fault before it develops into a major problem and save money!

We have the same diagnostic tooling as a franchised dealer for all German and Performance vehicles. We also have the best of the aftermarket tools and equipment which means that we are set up to accurately diagnose any faults and prove a part is needed before throwing money at it!

Unlike most MOT stations and Fast Fit centres that claim to do diagnostics, our staff come from main dealer backgrounds and have the experience to pin point a problem without wasting your money.

Free Fluid Topups in between services - pop in anytime

Qualified Technicans all from Main Dealer background

Our technicans are trained experts, everyone of them has come from a franchised dealer background and has received all the training. Have you checked that the mechanic at your MOT station has bothered to sit his exams? Modern cars are complicated and require a technician who keeps up to date with his qualifications and knowledge. Do you really want to entrust your car to someone that doesn't know the difference between a spanner and a banana?

DATSC DEUTSCHE AUTO TEKNIK SERVICE CENTRE

Deutsche Auto Teknik
5 Woodham Road, Barry Docks CF63 4JE
Service & Repairs: 08000 337 092 / 01446 327 007

Free WiFi spot

Dinas push high-flying Met close

UNDER the new management team of Keith Williams and Lee Saunders, Dinas Powys FC took a while to settle into the different style of football they were asked to play against Cardiff Met University, but they began to adapt as the game got into the latter stages and they had their high-flying opponents on the back foot at times in the second half.

Met started well and forced an early corner which was over-hit and went out for a goal kick. At the other end, Joe Briscombe won the ball in midfield and hit a long range shot which cleared the crossbar.

The visitors opened the scoring in the 11th minute when the skillful Tim Nixon squared the ball from the right wing, finding Josh Roxwell, who slotted home from six yards, giving Dinas keeper James Curtin no chance.

Just two minutes later, Curtin was called into action again, this time he made a superb diving save from Lyall Hickman's curling shot to keep the scoreline down.

Dinas had the odd chance but the visitors' passing was slick and they had the lion's share of possession at this stage. As the half wore on, Dinas came more into the game, Dimitri Fallas putting Luke Swaffield in but his shot was just over the bar and a free kick from 25 yards by Nicky Bruce was over-hit and went out for a goal kick.

The visitors forced a couple more corners which were dealt with by the Dinas rearguard and at the other end, some neat inter-passing between Joe Briscombe, Marc Bonet and Swaffield looked promising but eventually broke down.

Dinas were beginning to call the shots and they forced two unproductive corners and were almost made to pay when Met keeper Willis released the ball early, Hickman bursting through the middle for a one on one with Curtin, but he sliced his shot wide.

Some fine work down the left flank from Bruce and Carlos Indjai ended with a good cross but Willis gathered the ball to thwart the danger.

With just five minutes of the half remaining Dinas had their best chance to equalise; a great run and cross from Swaffield reached Indjai at the far post in the six yard box but Willis somehow smothered his shot when it looked as though he must score, and the half ended with Dinas getting on top.

The hosts started the second half well but Met were still dangerous and an early warning came just seven minutes into the half when Josh Roxwell hit a firm shot just over the bar.

Just three minutes later Dinas were level, Fallas latching onto a ball in from the right and driving it into the corner of the net from 14 yards for 1-1.

Although Dinas kept up the pressure they found themselves behind again when Roxwell bundled in a deep free kick at the near post to make it 2-1.

Dinas then rang the changes Ryan Garland replacing Indjai with 20 minutes remaining and they continued to press but the visitors almost added a third when sub James Ward clipped the top of the Dinas cross-bar from the edge of the box.

Dinas then introduced Ben Ah-Mun for Fallas and Barry King for Swaffield and they continued to improve with some fine interpassing through the midfield but time ran out; however the future looks promising once the squad get used to the new style of play.

Dinas are at home again on Saturday March 29 when AFC Llwydcoed are the visitors, 2.30pm kick off.

Squad: 1 James Curtin, 2 Ronan Scott, 3 Nicky Bruce, 4 Victor Arnau, 5 James Bloxham (c), 6 Anthony Herrin, 7 Luke Swaffield, 8 Marc Bonet, 9 Dimitri Fallas (1), 10 Joe Briscombe, 11 Carlos Indjai, 12 Ryan Garland, 14 Ben Ah-Mun, 15 Wesley Howells, 16 Barry King. **PK**

Gymnasts shine at grade event

THREE Barry YMCA gymnasts were in action recently at the South Central Grades.

Celyn Powell, Laila-Jade Lang and Sophia Foscolo all successfully completed routines on vault, bars, beam, floor and conditioning set to gain their grade 13 badge and certificate.

In addition, Laila-Jade gained ribbons for placing fifth on bars, fifth on vault and sixth on beam in the 'out of age' category, while Sophia gained a ribbon for placing fifth on vault in the 'in age' category.

Congratulations to all three and thank you to Leanne, Sophie and Karen for assisting at the competition.

For further information about gymnastics at Barry YMCA please contact 01446 724001. **KD**

Bombettes defeated in friendly

ON Sunday, Barry Bombettes took on Maesteg Celtic in a friendly.

This was a match arranged in place of a Cup match as Penallta pulled out of the cup.

The first half was played with the wind against Barry but repeated attacks at Maesteg resulted in a try by number 8 Yapp, who touched down at the back of an immense scrum; this went unconverted.

The forwards worked hard in defence and were strong throughout the half keeping Maesteg at a distance; unfortunately one of their runners broke the line and made it through to score.

The game was played in this manner throughout with Maesteg scoring from lucky breaks and through their their two runners.

Barry showed good form with an amazing run from Potter which led to a try and conversion by Richards.

Maesteg hung back from the onslaught while Barry maintained their attacking form driving Maesteg back repeatedly.

Luckily for them they had a good kicker, which brought Barry back on a number of occasions but with no benefit to Maesteg, who continued to go for the try line.

Mention must be made to the last 20 minutes of the game where Barry's attacking form came into play with many attacks held up.

With the score at 28-27 to Maesteg, Barry had everything to play for, but unfortunately another lucky break saw Maesteg's number 13 run the length of the pitch to score the winning try for Maesteg. Final score 35-27.

A narrow defeat but a good game for Barry, who regained their composure, communication and support and maintained it right through to the final whistle.

Team: Cahill, Husk, Richards, Coleman, Helmore, Potter, Young, Yapp, Shanahan, Bannister, Jones (c), Rosie, Britton, O'Neil, Day-Smith. Substitutes: Horne, Cashman, Garner, Phillips. **RB**

Chess league table topped by father and son

ROUND five of the Barry Chess Club Championships, with 18 players in the tournament, was expected to be interesting.

Ken Hannah found himself under great pressure and had only three seconds left to play three moves before the first time control. Like a flash he played one, then another, but alas he thought before making his final move to lose on time.

Martin Ricketts was also in time trouble. Somehow he manged to complete his allotted 30 moves but as the game moved into extra time it only took Dave Parsons one additional move to take the win.

The only matches not to go in line with ratings were on top board, where Ashley Davis maintained his unbeaten form to defeat Craig Woolcock, and on board three where Kevin Gandy while having a slightly better position was happy to take the draw offered by Steve Cunliffe.

As a child my parents always instilled in me that to be modest is a virtue. So it is hard for me to say that for the first time in my chess career I feel I played a faultless game, winning in only 30 minutes without any of my pieces being captured. If only my opponent had bothered to turn up! Still a win by default earns the same as winning by normal means.

The league table shows that father and son Lee and Ashley Davis top the table. It seems likely that the Davis 'boys' will play each other in the next round.

The Plate and Bowl sections are being closely fought. In fact there are only 0.5 points separating five players in the Plate which is currently led by Kevin Gandy, and three players in the Bowl, where the leader is John Stephenson.

There was also a match in division four of the East Glamorgan Chess league. This was the first round in the play-offs and the Gambits played host to bottom team the St John's College Neutrinos. For the third time this season, the Gambits beat the Neutrinos by a margin of 4 - 1 to remain in fifth position.

Of note here was the first ever league match for new boy Stephen Bonutto. Stephen was not due to play but agreed to join the team at short notice when illness left the team a player short.

While he was unsuccessful in this match, it just goes to show how much more difficult playing a competitive match can be rather than playing against a computer or a friendly.

In this instance, there is the issue of speed as playing a college player inevitably means they play fast and can draw you into playing faster than you would like. Still, well done for helping out and I feel sure Stephen's name will feature in a more positive note on a regular basis in future.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7:30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly game.

PHIL JONES

40 mile track race draws strong runners

THE 28th annual Barry 40 miles track race, held at Jenner Park on Sunday March 9, was another resounding success.

The beautiful early springlike conditions meant that many more supporters and officials came to watch than usual, and they were treated to another amazing spectacle of endurance running.

15 out of the 20 starters completed the distance, a glowing testament to the preparation and tenacity of everyone involved.

As usual the race showcased the appeal of ultradistance to all ages and all abilities. Some were running further than ever before, while others were using it as preparation for even more strenuous activity. The athletes also came from far and wide.

The race winner, as last year, was Belgian Pieter Vermeesch. Pieter led from gun to tape, and although slowing somewhat in the second half, the margin of victory, at 28 minutes and 2 seconds, was the greatest in the history of the event. His winning time was 4:24:57.

In second place was Jason Dickinson from west Wales, thereby winning the Welsh ultradistance title. Jason only started running around five years ago, and this was the longest distance he had yet tackled. His was a brilliantly executed piece of pace judgment, very hard to achieve over this distance.

Third was Zoltan Lesi, one of three Hungarian athletes in the race, and they all completed the distance. Zoltan had to fight all the way to hang on to third place, but the accompanying support from their family and friends made for one of the most endearing features of the race.

Jayne Angilley from Redruth in Cornwall decisively won the ladies race, and the Welsh ladies title in her first visit to the Barry 40.

An additional feature was the appearance of two well-known Welsh actors, Richard Harrington and Mark Lewis Jones, who were both using the race as part of their preparation for next month's Marathon des Sables.

They ran together for the first 30 miles before Mark began to inch ahead, but both acquitted themselves really well and looked strong throughout.

Although ultra running is ultimately about the athletes, the support crew, in all their different roles, were just as important.

Thanks therefore also go to all the lap recorders, timekeepers and officials, feed station helpers, paramedic Martyn Morgan, Gary and Pip Hyatt for refreshments, groundstaff Mike Dodds and Nick Collins and the Vale Council, photographer Paul Stillman, and everyone else who gave their time and their support.

MM